THE TIMES

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Raining ...
Philip Norman faces the New York monsoon with nothing more than a rickety ombray-la



... champions
Beryl Downing looks at the winners of the 1984 Design Council awards

White ...
Spanish whites, the wines that hide their lights under a bushel

... horses
Michael Phillips previews the 2,000 Guineas

Fresh clashes as Ravenscraig steps up coal convoys

● British Steel stepped up its coal lorry convoys through striking miners outside Ravenscraig steelworks bringing fresh clashes

● Lancashire and Yorkshire also had their trouble spots. More than 1,000 pickets gathered outside Golborne Colliery, Lancashire, and in South Nottinghamshire 2,000 invaded the pit village of Cotgrave.

● In the Commons, Mrs Thatcher dubbed Mr Kinnock "the strikers' friend" over the attempted blockade of Ravenscraig

● Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the CBI, said in London: "There is no room for compromise on the part of the coal board".

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

There were fresh clashes on the picket lines outside Ravenscraig steelworks in Scotland yesterday as British Steel stepped up its coal lorry *convoys through the striking* miners.

Mr Michael McGahey, president of the Scottish miners, and the area secretary, Mr Eric Clarke, were on the picket line outside Ravenscraig yesterday as lorries carrying coal from the Hunterston terminal thundered through with supplies regarded as vital by unions and management at the Motherwell complex.

There were five arrests as the first wave of lorries went in during the morning. But there were fewer than 100 pickets and they were outnumbered two to one by the police.

Trouble also flared in Nottinghamshire and Lancashire, where picketing increased sharply and more pits were prevented from working normally. As the crisis worsened, leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers reported deadlock in tentative peace contacts with the National Coal Board.

Top-level union officials meet in Sheffield today to choose a date for the mass demonstration intended to bring the Nottighamshire coalfield to a standstill. *The Times* undrstand that it will almost certainly be arranged for Wednesday.

Mr Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the union, said last night: "There is certainly no willingness on the part of this union to sit down and talk *about closing pits*".

His reaffirmation of the union hard line came as the coal board chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, gave a warning that only "dedicated action" by management was overcoming the threat to pits posed by "the *present pointless dispute*".

In Lancashire yesterday, police made eight arrests outside Golborne Colliery, where more than 1,000 pickets had gathered. Coal was being produced at two of the eight pits in the county after some of the *heaviest picketing since* the strike began. The number of men reporting for work fell from 1,775 to 1,509.

In Nottinghamshire, the board said that all but one of the 25 pits in the coalfield were producing, but the union said *that up to 10,000 of the 30,000* pitmen were on strike.

About 700 local strikers marched from Linby pit to Hucknall Colliery, near by and predicted many more such demonstrations.

In the south of the coalfield, *more than 2,000 pickets, many* from Yorkshire, evaded police road blocks and invaded the pit village of Cotgrave. Police reinforecements were rushed in *and there were 18 arrests* as miners reporting for work ran a gauntlet of abuse and stones.

About 25 Kent miners were arrested at the non-union port of Wivenhoe in Essex, where *imported* coal is being moved out in lorries.

But though the tension increased *in the coalfields and* steelmaking areas, Mr MacGregor said that he was prepared to sit out the strike "indefinitely". He agreed that it was time for compromise, but insisted that it would not come from him.

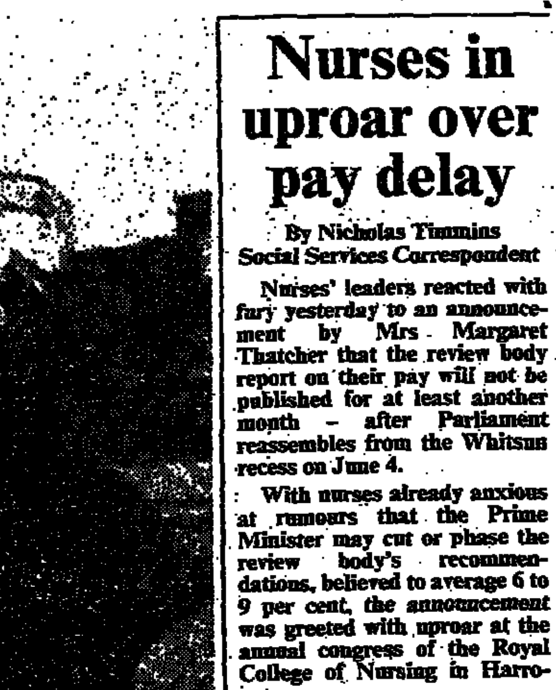
"It is time they made some overtures to me", he said in Blackpool after addressing a conference of British Association of Cilliery Management.

"It is time they made some *overtures to me. I did not start* the strike, so I cannot determine how long it will last. It will end when the people who have decided not to work come back to work."

Responding to suggestions that Mr Scargill, union president, would not back down, he added: "That makes two of us. My attitude has to be a reflection of Mr Scargill's attitude. That is the way bargaining takes place.

"If I see any sign of intelligent bargaining on his part, I will respond. I have not seen any so far. I have not heard anything to *negotiate about*. Nobody comes to see me. I see no reason for

Continued on back page, col 1



A policeman gets to grips with a picket at Wivenhoe, Essex, yesterday.



Mr McGahey remonstrating with a television crew at Ravenscraig yesterday.

Violence in Warsaw

Massed units of Polish riot police last night dispersed Solidarity demonstrators in the centre of Warsaw after a series of violent clashes. Thousands of Solidarity supporters, chanting anti-government slogans, marched through Polish cities yesterday to mark the anniversary of the 1791 liberal constitution **Earlier story, page 6**

Shops face glue fines

The Government has indicated that it would be prepared to support a private member's Bill aimed at prosecuting shopkeepers who sell glue to youngsters under the age of 16 **Page 3**

Not so healthy

Few of the costly treatments offered by health farms have any lasting effect except on one's purse, according to a *Which?* report **Page 3**

Bank pledge

Midland Bank is taking vigorous steps to stem the losses of its US subsidiary, Mr John Harris, chief executive of Midland's international division, said **Page 17**

Rail pressure

The two main rail unions are planning to put pressure on British Rail to increase its 4 per cent pay offer **Page 2**

Teasing ban

The city of Delhi has sent a Bill for endorsement in the Indian Parliament outlawing sexual harassment of women, known in India as "Eve-teasing" **Page 7**

Hostages well

The 16 Britons about to be released by the Unita rebels in Angola are well, according to a *released Portuguese prisoner* who saw them last week **Page 6**

Bekaa quiet

Diplomatic tension between Israel and Syria over the capture of three Israeli soldiers in northern Lebanon has not affected the ceasefire in the Bekaa Valley **Page 6**

Classic victory

Pebbles, trained by Clive Brittain and ridden by Phillip Robinson, won the 1,000 Guineas, the season's first classic race, at Newmarket yesterday **Page 23**

Sangster to sue

Robert Sangster, the world's leading racehorse owner and breeder, is to sue Lloyd's of London for over £4m. Lloyd's are refusing to pay Mr Sangster's claim over the death of his stallion, Golden Fleece **Page 23**

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Letters: On Ireland, from Mr Peter Jay; video Bill, from Mr J J Smyth, QC, and Mrs Mary Whitehouse; living standards, from Mrs V J Bentley
Leading articles: *Irish forum;* The Pope in the Far East; Libyan mission in London
Features, pages 8, 9, 10
A new way forward for South Africa; Egypt's 'honest' election; Shirley Williams on the New Ireland Forum report. Spectrum: silencing the last dissident. *Friday page:* the polo girls
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CBI firmly behind MacGregor

No compromise, says Beckett

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general *of the Congederation of* British Industry, yesterday reiterated the unconditional support of his members for the National Coal Board in the *miners'* dispute. There was no room for compromise on the part of Mr Ian MacGregor, its chairman, he said.

The NCB was recruiting young miners in the coming year, and there was nothing in *Mr MacGregor's plans for the* industry that did not give anything other than a superb future for coal.

Sir Terence, speaking to *labour and industrial journalists* in London, said that a rapid survey of industry by the CBI in the past few days had confirmed that apart from the main steelworks of the British Steel Corporation the country's manufacturing industry was unaffected by the miner's strike.

However, if the pit stoppage were prolonged Britain's seven big engergy-using sectors, which include steel, chemicals, glass *and paper, could be hit severely,* he said.

Those industries could lose more jobs as a result of the increasingly uncompetitive *price of energy than those under* threat in the mining industry. One way to reduce the price of electricity was to get a lower price for coal, and the whole of industry supported the position adopted by Mr MacGregor.

However, one of the more perverse impacts of the strike was the threat to the BSC's works at Ravenscraig, Scunthorpe and Llanwern. "If one of those is closed the only effect is less *demand for coal*," Sir Terence said. "It will exacerbate the problems of excess capacity and costs in the coal industry."

Esso forces petrol price rise to fail

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A combination of the largest petrol company and the small independent companies forced Shell, BP and Texaco to call off a price rise of almost 4p a gallon yesterday only hours after it was implemented.

Shell, *which has 20 per cent* of the market, and BP, with 14 per cent, said that increases announced on Monday and Tuesday were being cancelled. The term used was "re-alingned".

The companies bowed to *market pressure* caused by Esso, which has marginally more outlets than Shell, refusing, in turn, to raise it *basic price* from 184.1p to 187.8.

Texaco, with an 8 per cent market share, brought its price back to 184p after less than 24 hours at 187.8p.

The companies raised prices because of the strength of the *dollar against the pound - petrol* is bought in dollars - and because, they claim, petrol sales have hardly covered costs.

Esso, which intends to remain market leader, felt market forces would make the price rise difficult to maintain.

At *present* petrol in many areas is selling at under 180p due to smaller companies and independent *retail* chains buying at low on the spot prices in their fight to increase market share. Some supermarket chains are also using petrol as a loss leader.

The big companies have been subsidising their dealers to help them match these prices.

Petrol on the Rotterdam spot market has fallen this week from $276 a tonne to $272 a tonne. Independent retailers with low overheads and no running costs still make a profit at a pump price of less than *180p*.

However, Shell garages in London still offered petrol at 187.8p yesterday, though BP and Texaco garages had commonly cut back to 184.1p.

One of the most expensive petrol stations was a Gulf garage *at Finsbury Square, in the Ciy* of London, which charged 189.2p, though the manager said the price had deterred hardly any of his customers, 90 per cent of whom were companies. A Total station at Hendon, North London, was one of the cheapest, at £181.9p.

N Sea plan will secure 40,000 jobs

A *consortium* led by Shell UK is to spend £550m developing two North Sea gas fields. More than 70 per cent of the work will be placed in Britain, securing the jobs of an estimated 40,000 workers.

Contracts worth £33m have already been placed. By the end of the year, a further £100m worth of bids will have been sought.

The fields, called Sean South and Sean North, lie 66 miles off the Norfolk coast and are expected to feed 600 million cubic feet of gas a day into the British Gas network when they *begin producing in mid-1986*.

A further boost was given to the British energy sector yesterday when Sir Peter Walters, chairman of British Petroleum, announced that a record £2,000m would be spent on improving and expanding the *business this year*.

He told the BP annual meeting that the group plans to develop four gas fields in the southern North Sea. Together they should yield nearly as much energy as the Magnus field, which began production last year. **Details, page 17**

Nurses in uproar over pay delay

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Nurses' leaders reacted with *fury* yesterday to an announcement by Mrs Margaret Thatcher that the review body report on their pay will not be published for at least another month – after Parliament reassembles from the Whitsun recess on June 4.

With nurses already anxious at rumours that the Prime Minister may cut or phase the review body's recommendations, believed to average 6 to 9 per cent, the *announcement* was greeted with uproar at the annual congress of the Royal College of Nursing in Harrogate.

There were boos, jeers and hissing from the 1,100 conference delegates and the college council held an emergency session to demand a meeting *today* between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Trevor Clay, the college's general secretary.

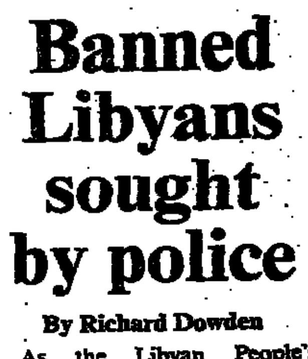
The nurses, whose rise was due on April 1, have not had a pay *increase since* the settlement of the eight-month National Health Service dispute in November 1982.

A college spokesman said an *announcement in June would* mean the money would not reach pay packets until September, 22 months after the last increase. Mr Ian Hargreaves, *chairman of the* college council, said: "The announcement makes me furious."

Mr Bob Jones, national *secretary* for the health service members of the National Union of Public Employees, said the decision was "absolutely disgusting".

"It is a disturbing and frustrating blow for a dedicated group of people who are already *suffering the stress and strain* of poverty wages. We are extremely angry", he added.

NHS managers, page 2



Banned Libyans sought by police

By Richard Dowden

As the Libyan People's Bureau was finally handed over to the Saudi Arabians by the anti-terrorist squad, police throughout Britain were yesterday searching for four Libyans who are to be deported and for members of a Libyan gang wanted in connexion with bombings in London and Manchester in March.

Yesterday it was announced that two Libyans had been arrested by Sussex police and are awaiting deportation and two Libyans appeared in court at Lambeth, south London, charged with conspiring to cause explosions in London in March.

The two facing deportation are Mmr Abdul Razzaq, aged *25, and Mr Sami Saleh Lataief.* It is thought by exiled Libyans that Mr Razzaq tried to reorganize the Libyan students after the recent expulsion of the four-man Revolutionary Committee which took over the People's Bureau in Feburary.

From the headquarters of the Jamahirya Student Congress in Ennismore Gardens, Mr Razzaq, who was on the five-man committee which organized the students, tried to *contact* Libyan students throughout Britain and rally them to the Gaddifi cause.

Mr Razzaq came to Britain in *1979 and enrolled in a three*-year course at Chelsea College of Aeronautical and Automobile Enginneering at Shoreham in Sussex. Yesterday the principal of the college Mr Edmund Greenwood said "there was nothing exceptional about *him* when he was a student. He was a very pleasant fellow. He was not terribly bright but he was very courteous." He left in 1982 with a *certificate but failed to get a* diploma.

Mr Greenwood also confirmed that Mr Najib Hussain was a student at the college and *was expected back this term*. Mr Hussain is the secretary of the Jamahirya Student Committee but is thought to be back in Libya at present. According to *Libyan* sources Mr Hussain recruited both Mr Razzaq and Mr Ali Ahmed Musbah, one of the Libyans facing bombing conspiracy charges, onto the committee.

The other members are Abdullah Bibas, formerly of Aston and *Cardiff Universities* and Khalifa Sefow, a biology student in Manchester.

Mr Sami Seleh Lataief, the other Libyan arrested yesterday and *facing deportation*, was also involved in student activities particularly in making contact with other foreign students in Britain.

● The Irish Government yesterday expressed "grave concern" at Colonel Gaddafi's comments that he was prepared to provide support for the IRA.

Drive to free Britons, page 2
Leading article, page 11

Irish Forum case launched worldwide

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Irish Republic's government launched a worldwide diplomatic initiative to promote the New Ireland Forum yesterday as Unionists from Northern Ireland flew to the United States to defend their position.

Delegations from the rival official and Democratic Unionist parties are travelling to Washington to present their case, *making it clear that any* political progress must be made internally within Northern Ireland. Both are urging the Social Democratic and Labour Party to return to the north and begin a dialogue with their fellow Ulstermen.

There is disappointment at the Northern Ireland Office at the Forum's findings, though it is recognized how far the nationalist parties have compromised. *But the Forum's* failure to produce much practical evidence of how to cope with the reality that Unionists will have nothing to do with any of their constitutional proposals, has surprised officials

The muted response from Unionists indicating their confidence, and the unreality of the Forum's wish for a united Ireland, is seen as making it easier for some form of dialogue to begin, both within the province and between London *and Dublin*.

In both Dublin and Belfast a paragraph in the report stating that the parties were open to discuss other views which could lead to political developments, were seen as a way of moving ahead but it is unlikely that talks will begin before the European elections in mid-June to avoid inflaming passions in the province.

Yesterday, the DUP launched their answer to the forum, "The Way Ahead", which outlines their opposition to a united Ireland and joint sovereignty. It highlights the "*domination*" *of the Roman* Catholic church in the republic, and is opposed to any institutional constitutional arrangement with Dublin.

The document, emblazoned with the Union Jack proposes legislative and executive devolution, with the rights of the minority fully respected.

Meanwhile, Dr FitzGerald is being urged to renew his consutitutional crusade in an effort to *make the Republic* a freer and open pluralistic society. Privately, some Unionist politicians and civil-servants are disappointed that the prime minister's ideas to change attitudes within his country have been submerged, and that he has *apparently* moved to a much "greener" position.

Leading article, Letters, page 11



Naked figures in relief on the shield which attracted yesterday's record silver price.

Record £484,000 for shield

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A *huge silver-gilt shield*, with naked classical figures in relief indulging in banquets, processions, harvests and other activities, became the most expensive item of antique silver ever sold at auction when it fetched £484,000 to Sotheby's yesterday.

It was designed by John Flaxman, the sculptor, following the description of Achilles' shield given in Homer's *Iliad* and made by the royal goldsmiths, Rundell, *Bridge and* Rundell, in 1822.

The shield was described by *The Times in 1826* as "the most wonderful" of all Flaxman's work, displaying "imagination, nice judgment and felicitous execution".

***The shield had been sent for* sale by the Duke of Northumberland, whose ancestor, the *3rd Duke*, had bought *it* from Rundell's. Sotheby's pre-sale estimate of its value was £80,000 to £120,000.**

The price reflects the impact of one significant collector on the silver market, Mr Muhammed Mahdi Al Tajir, the London Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates and one of the world's richest men.

The controversial ambassador, whose fortune has been estimated at around £2,000m, *now owns most of the important* silver appearing at auction during the past five years.

Most of the *important* items illustrated in "The Al Tajir Collection of Silver and Gold", a catalogue printed for the ambassador earlier this year, *were bought at auction by the* London dealer, Mr Jack Koopman.

The shield was bought by Koopman and Armitage yesterday, and Mr Koopman's partner, Mr Rahim Sadaat, of Armitage Antiques, said he expected Mr Al Tajir would be "first in the row" to whom the shield would be offered.

Mr Sadaat stressed that when he and Mr Koopman bought together at auction they never bought on commission for specific collectors.

***The joint purchases* of the two dealers accounted for more than £1.5m yesterday, or about *three-quarters of* the sale's total earnings. It seems likely that the most important lots, as least, will find their way into Mr Al Tajir's collection.**

Health service to have general managers before end of next year

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to go ahead with plans to introduce general managers throughout the National Health Service, as recommended in the Griffiths report.

With the report due to be debated in the Commons today, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, is expected to give few details of the Government's decision.

But ministers are believed to have decided to introduce general managers, first at regional level, then in health districts and finally at unit, or hospital level throughout the service. The process is expected to be completed by the end of next year at the latest.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, gave no details away yesterday when addressing a conference of health service administrators on the report. But the tone of his comments made it clear that although some detailed decisions have still to be taken, ministers intend to act swiftly.

Detailed guidance will be issued by the end of the month, he said. He was critical of the fact that it took two years for the 1982 reorganization of the NHS to work through, saying that the intention was not to introduce "some autocratic chief executive", but that "somebody at each level should actually discharge the general management function".

Health service administrators believe that the general managers will be introduced as a full-time, not part-time post, although at unit level occasional exceptions may be made to allow a consultant, for example, to continue some operating if he was not appointed as the general manager.

The job will be on a renewable contract – probably three years – and in the first instance administrators expect some extra salary, probably £2,000 to £3,000 a year for the general manager post.

In some cases, the general manager will be an additional appointment to the management team, with savings he is expected to make through greater efficiency more than paying for his salary. In others, for example, where an administrator rather than a treasurer, nurse or doctor is appointed to the job, a direct replacement may not be recruited.

Ministers have started implementing the Griffiths report within the Department of Health already, with the search under way for a chairman for the new NHS management board, who will be an effective director general for the NHS.

The changes are also likely to involve an appreciable reduction of the 2,500 civil servants within the department, where numbers have been cut by 20 per cent since the government took office.



"Married Love": The sculptor Oscar Nemon examining his bronze study of Sir Winston and Lady Churchill in a Basingstoke foundry. The statue, funded by the English Speaking Union, will be unveiled on May 12 in Kansas City, Missouri, which is near Fulton where Sir Winston made his "Iron Curtain" speech. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

New law proposed to stop price fraud

By Robin Young

A Government working party has recommended that complicated legislation on traders' claimed price reductions and bargain offers should be replaced with a comprehensive prohibition against misleading pricing.

In answer to a parliamentary question yesterday Mr Alex Fletcher, the minister for corporate and consumer affairs, said the working party's central recommendation was that a general law against false and misleading pricing should be supported by a statutory code of practice giving detailed guidance about individual practices.

The Department of Trade and Industry is consulting interested parties on whether this is the right way to tackle the question.

In comments on the report published yesterday, Mr Fletcher questioned whether a general offence backed by a statutory code would not leave traders uncertain about what was permissible.

An alternative, he suggested, would be that the proposed code of practice should be enacted as part of the legislation.

The existing legislation is section 11 of the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, and the Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order, 1979.

The Trade Descriptions Act requires traders who claim to have reduced a price to state a price they have charged for at least 28 days in the previous six months. This is widely circumvented by the display of disclaimers.

The Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order, imposing detailed controls on the use of both express and implied price comparisons for goods and services, has been widely criticized as being too complex to understand.

Yesterday Mr Fletcher said the Government was not committed to new legislation and that if the majority recommendation was accepted he thought any code of practice should be subject to parliamentary scrutiny.

He also raised the possibility, not suggested in the report, that any new offence should be tried iin a magistrates' court.

Mr Fletcher also indicated that his initial reaction was against a suggestion that Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, should have an enforcement role under new legislation.

NHS home sale share-out plan

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Health authorities are likely to be allowed to keep only a proportion of the money they raise by selling empty National Health Service flats and houses under government moves to be announced shortly.

The remainder is likely to be redistributed around the health service, or possibly used to fund local authority and Housing Corporation schemes through housing associations to provide better quality and "fair rent" accommodation earmarked for NHS staff.

The Rayner scrutiny on NHS accommodation, which ministers plan to publish shortly, says that by historical accident, some authorities own large amounts of property, others very little. If authorities kept all the proceeds of sale, those with large stocks would be unfairly rewarded.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, has said there may have to be some "averaging" of the proceeds, with the report recommending that authorities should keep at least 50 per cent.

According to the report, the health service owns more than 8,500 flats and houses that are off hospital sites and are potentially saleable. Some are extremely valuable, one house being sold for £600,000, and at a minimum that stock is worth £170m and possibly much more.

The remainder of the 112,000 units of accommodation includes about 12,000 further houses and flats, with 70,000 places in bedsitters and hostel-type blocks.

About a quarter of the property, the report says, probably has little or no market value, being integrated within hospital buildings. About another third consists of free-standing purpose built accommodation on hospital sites. The remainder is off-site.

At any one time approaching one-fifth of the accommodation is empty – the ministers' first target in a sell-off – with the vacancy rate ranging from 4 per cent to 33 per cent in the 47 authorities that took part in the excercise.

The report recommends cutting the number of places from 112,000 to about 39,000. Permanent staff occupying property who are unlikely to move should be offered it at the same discounts that local councils offer on council houses to tenants.

Charges are slowly rising over a four-year period to an "economic rent", but the report argues that charges do not reflect the true cost of providing accommodation.

Rayner recommendations on NHS accommodation

Main staff groups housed at present	
Student nurses	35,000 (44%)*
Other nurses	29,000 (8%)
Junior doctors	11,000 (52%)
Recommended provision	
1st year student nurses only	29,000
Junior doctors	8,000
Others	2,000

*As percentage of total staff in each category; figures are approximate.

Railmen set for pay claim action

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The two main rail unions were drawing up plans last night to bring pressure on British Rail to increase a 4 per cent pay offer and were considering calling industrial action.

Meetings of the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen were due to be completed this morning after which union leaders will announce their decision.

The executives were discussing several possibilities including referring the rejection of the claim to Lord McCarthy's arbitration tribunal, calling an all-out strike or lesser forms of industrial action, including selective strikes or go-slow action.

British Rail has insisted that the 4 per cent on offer is contingent on immediate agreement to implement three productivity issues, removal of second men from locomotive cabs, the introduction of driver-only operation of freight trains and extending the driver-only operation from the controversial Bedford-St Pancras communter line to the suburban service from Kings Cross to east Hertfordshire.

The unions had submitted "substantial" claims, linked to a call for a shorter working week and extra holidays. It is thought that the unions may want to refer the disagreement to the McCarthy tribunal as a first step.

● The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' policy-making conference at Eastbourne yesterday rejected a call for a 47.5 per cent claim and another for £20 a week rise for two million engineering industry workers (the Press Association reports).

Welsh steel plant clash looms as leaders meet

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The union movement was heading yesterday for another Ravenscraig-style clash between pitmen and steelworkers at the profitable Llanwern steelworks in Gwent.

Representatives in the National Union of Mineworkers and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation were meeting last night in a last-ditch attempt to thrash out a compromise over the future of the plant.

Steelworkers' leaders made clear that unless coke is allowed into the plant by miners within the next 48 hours, they would accept strike-breaking convoys of coal like their colleagues at Ravenscraig.

Both the management and confederation representatives at Llanwern are concerned that unless the deliveries are alowed through there could be permanent damage to the works with a risk to 4,200 jobs.

Union talk of the possibility of an explosion on the scale of Flixborough some years ago was discounted by the British Steel Corporation, but there is little doubt that the safety problem is increasing. A village near by was cleared last week.

Last Saturday's instruction by Mr Arthur Scargill to "tighten the noose" in the coal strike has led to a tougher attitude from miners.

Normally the works, which is understood to have made £5m profit last year, needs 26,000 tonnes of coke and coal a week.

No reliable figures are available for how much has been getting through during the eight-week stoppage, but steel union scources say a vital consignment of 13,500 tonnes promised by the National Union of Mineworkers on Tuesday has not yet been released.

New drive to free detained Britons

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

British and Italian diplomats in Tripoli are said to be launching a fresh initiative to secure the release of two British businessmen, seized by Libyan police without explanation last month.

The move follows pressure on the Foreign Office from the men's employers, who are said to be increasingly concerned.

Representatives of Poole Intadrill, which employs Mr John Campbell, called on Mr Ray Whitney, Under Secretary at the Foreign Office yesterday.

The other man is Mr Douglas Ledingham, Tripoli manager of British Caledonian. The company says it has had no official news of the men since they were arrested over two weeks ago, on the first day of the siege in St James's Square, London.

They are understood to be detained in a building not far from the empty British embassy, in conditions which are said to be "one up" on those in prison.

There is no suggestion of any ill-treatment. Mr Ledingham has been allowed regular calls to his wife, who has now returned with her four children to Britain.

But repeated attempts by Mr Oliver Miles, the British Ambassador, and, since the weekend, by diplomats from the Italian embassy which is representing British interests, have failed to uncover the reasons for their arrest and continuing detention.

At first it was thought Colonel Gaddafi was seizing hostages to help ensure that those inside the Libyan People's Bureau would be allowed to leave Britain without being charged with the murder of WPC Yvonne Fletcher. But there now seems little reason for them to remain in custody, in the absence of any formal prosecution.

It is understood the two British diplomats still in Tripoli to look after consulate matters, such as those involving Mr Ledingham and Mr Campbell, are now making a concerted attempt to get consular access to the two men, and press once more for their release.

Geoffrey Smith, page 5

Remands for Libyans in bomb case

By Richard Dowden

Two Libyans were remanded in custody yesterday facing charges in connexion with six bomb incidents in London in March, (Richard Dowden writes).

Ali Ahmed Musbah, aged 22, of no fixed address, was arrested on April 26 at Heathrow airport. Ali El Giahour, aged 44, who gave his address as the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, central London, a businessman, was arrested on March 10 and was making his eighth court appearance.

Both are accused of conspiracy to cause explosions before March 9 in the greater London area, and conspiring with others to place five bombs in London, two of which exploded on March 10, one at Marina's newsagency in Queensway, the other at the El-Oberge club in Berkley Street, central London.

They were remanded in custody until May 10

New code for solicitors

Draft professional standards for solicitors, outlining expected behaviour on communicating with clients, estimating costs and giving clients information, were published by the Law Society yesterday (Our Legal Affairs Correspondent writes).

The standards, yet to be approved by the society' council, have been sent to local law societies and other interested bodies for comment. Solicitors must tell clients at the first interview in "simple terms" what the case involves, how it will be dealt with and the immediate steps to be taken.

Teachers urged to claim less

By Colin Hughes

Teachers' unions taking industrial action were urged yesterday by the Professional Association of Teachers (PAT), which has a "no strikes or disruption" policy, to lower their pay claim in the hope of settling the pay dispute.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the association, which has 24,000 members, said he believed the employers would agree to go to arbitration if the teachers' union collectively agreed to reduce their claim below 10 per cent.

So far the lowest claim the unions have mentioned is 12.5 per cent, made informally as a possible starting point for arbitration. The employers rejected it as too high.

Mr Dawson said he was making his request to the other unions because he feared the teachers' action would escalate beyond control and would eventually damage the prospects of pupils sitting examinations this summer.

He said he knew of one special school in Yorkshire where handicapped children were going unfed at lunchtime because teachers refused to supervise lunches.

Mr Douglas McAvoy, chairman of the teachers' panel of unions, and deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers (NUT), said: "The teachers would reconsider the level of their collective claim only if employers 'categorically guaranteed' that they were willing to accept arbitration."

Hotels must take out more TV licences

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The hotel and tourist industry reacted with disappointment last night to government proposals to make hotels with 100 rooms pay an extra £782 a year for television licences.

They will have to take out 18 licences instead of one. Establishments with 200 rooms will need 38 licences, costing an extra £1,702 a year. But hotels with 15 rooms or less will continue to pay the single colour licence fee of £46, due to go up next year.

The changes will end what the Home Office called yesterday the "undesirable anomaly" which has allowed all the television sets on hotel premises to be covered by one licence.

In line with an undertaking given last year, the Government is to make disabled people in residential homes eligible for 5p concessionary licences on the same basis as pensioners in similar homes.

The British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers Association said that the new scheme would mean considerable extra costs being passed on to customers.

The annoucement will have a negligible effect on licence fee negotiations. The Home Office said an extra £2m would be raised, which would be offset by the £1.6m cost of the concessionary scheme for the disabled.

Oxford to split 'second' degree

Oxford is to begin granting two levels of second-class degrees in 1986, in common with other universities. More than three quarters of Oxford's students receive second-class degrees.

In a postal ballot dons and senior officers voted two to one for the change. Oxford's Hebdomadal Council then adopted the recommendation.

Computer cash for councils

A county council has gone into the computer business, and is making money. Berkshire County Council has sold computer systems developed by its careers service and computer section to The Wirral and Buckinghamshire councils.

Sale room

Silver boom brings top prices for two dukes

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Two dukes who sent silver to Sotheby's yesterday emerged far richer than they expected.

The Duke of Northumberland's silver made £942,139, while the Duke of Leinster's scooped £225,000, where only £70,000 had been estimated.

Prices for high-quality silver have never been higher. Apart from the record-breaking £484,000 paid for the Archilles shield, Koopman and Armitage, bidding in partnership, paid £286,000 (estimate £120,000 to £150,000) for a pair of George III silver-gilt sideboard dishes designed by Thomas Stothard (724oz) and made by Rundall's in 1813.

They paid £121,000 (estimate £25,000 to £35,000) for a large pair of George IV silver-gilt double wine coaster wagons by Edward Barnard & Sons.

Two other dealers, Shrubsole and S. J. Phillips, joined forces to bid on the other star item, a Mary Tudor silver-gilt casting bottle made in London in 1553 and weighing 5oz. The delicate little bottle, probably made for perfume, cost them £110,000 (estimate £30,000 to 50,000).

The sale totalled £2,045,951, with only 1 per cent unsold.

Bloomsbury Book Auctions held one of its best sales, with travel and topography making exceptionally high prices.

The first edition of Luke Fox's *North-West Fox*, published by Alsop and Fawcet in 1635, sold for £12,100 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000).

Phillips completed its sale of the Hampton collection of toy soldiers yesterday with a total of £203,790 leaving only 1 per cent unsold. Yesterday's top prices were paid by Malcolm Forbes for his Forbes Museum in Tangier, the world's largest private collection of toy soldiers.

He paid £3,000 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) for a tented British Army field hospital of 1910 and £2,420 (estimate £300 ot £400) for a monoplane clockwork dive-bomber of 1938 by Tippco.

Correction

The sum awarded in damages to Mrs Hazel Cook, of Llangynin, Dyfed (report, April 24) was £232,500.

RC bishops to start regular unity meetings

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Leaders of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales are inviting the leaders of the other main denominations to take part in regular meetings to discuss church unity.

This emerged yesterday as the reply of the Roman Catholic Biships' Conference to overtures from the British Council of Churches. They are also agreeing to the council's request for a conference in 1987 in the theme of church unity, concentrating on the issue of "the nature of the Church".

But they are not anxious at this stage to enter talks with the council on the possible structure of any new inter-church body, of which the Roman Catholic Church would be a full member.

The Archbishop of Liverpool, Mgr Derek Worlock, said the top level meetings could take place two or three times a year. At present there is no formal collaboration between the Catholic Church and the other main churches, who all belong to the British Council of Churches, although various steps have been taken in recent months to give new impetus in Britain to the ecumenical movement, after previous setbacks.

The bishops also issued a strong statement expressing their concern about the practice of prescribing contraceptives to girls under 16. While not commenting on the legal proceedings brought by Mr Victoria Gillick against her health authority, they declared that "to accept as normal a 'surrender to moral confusion and an abdication of social responsiblity.' "

Mgr Vincent Nichols, secretary of the Bishop's Conference, said: "This document is willing to allow that there are difficult cases." The statement, prepared by the church's Department of Social Responsibility, said the professional integrity of doctors required that they should not interpose their own moral judgments between young patients and their parents.

"If the doctor, for whatever reason, judges it to be unwise to involve the parents, the onus is on the doctor to justify his actions."

It urged the Department of Health and Social Security to revise its guidelines to doctors "to give better protection to the rights of parents" but added: "It is admitted that over-emphasis on the precise age of 16 is not always helpful."

● An outspoken attack by the Duke of Norfolk, senior Roman Catholic layman in Britain, on the Roman Catholic Church's official teaching on contraception, appears today in *The Universe*.

It reports him as saying last weekend to the Catholic Teachers' Federation that the 1968 Papal Encyclical Humanae Vitae, which declared contraception to be intrinsically evil, "was nonsense".



Hand reared: Miss Libby Henson feeding Gwen, a four-month-old heifer from a rare herd of Vaynols cattle at Cotswold Farm Park, near Cheltenham (Photograph: Mike Charity)

Inquiries on helicopter that ditched in sea

British Airways and British Petroleum yesterday launched separate investigations into the forced landing of a Chinook commercial helicopter in the North Sea on Wednesday. The crew of three and 44 passengers, who were on their way home from the Magnus oil platform, 125 miles north-east of the Shetland Islands, were rescued after abandoning the floundering helicopter.

The British Airways inquiry will focus on the flight control system which apparently developed a fault in the hydraulic pressure system, as well as on complaints by passengers about safety lines securing two liferafts to the helicopter. BP promised an energetic inquiry into other complaints by passengers about the survival suits they were wearing.

The helicopter, which turned turtle after the rescue operation, was being examined yesterday by British Airways engineers on the deck of the West German supply ship, Gallusturm. It was lifted onto the the ship early yesterday

A more detailed examination of the flight control system will be made when the Gallusturm docks in Aberdeen probably at the weekend.

LWT cut opinion poll Hattersley says

By Anthony Bevins

Mr Roy Hattersley yesterday accused London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* programme of "distorted reporting" for suppressing an opinion poll which gave Labour a 5 per cent lead.

Labour's deputy leader, who had been interviewed about the coal strike during last Sunday's programme, said that he had complained at the time about the "tendentious and prejudiced" introduction to the programme.

Viewers had been presented with a distorted view of the strike

He added yesterday: "I now discover that the programme had commissioned an opinion poll which demonstrated that, far from the Labour Party losing support because of the attitude we had taken, we had actually improved our position to a 5-point lead, but that this opinion poll was not mentioned because it did not fit in with the programme's predetermined view that the Labour Party had been damaged by the position it had taken up."

Mr Hattersley said that LWT could partly make amends with immediate publication of the poll results.

Chess interest centres on Karpov's rivals

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

With Karpov playing a quick draw in 15 moves with his fellow countryman Vaganian, chief interest in the seventh round of the Phillips and Drew GLC Kings Chess tournament in London yesterday centred on the game between the world champion's two rivals Polugaievsky and Chandler.

So Karpov and Pougaievsky were sharing the lead with 5½ points each, half a point ahead of Chandler and Seirawan, who won in incisive fashion against the British champion Mestel

Results in round 7: Timman ½, Ribli ½, Sic Defence 3 moves; Serrewan 1, Mestel 0, Robatsch Defence 30; Polugaievsky ½, Chandler ½, QGD Parrasch Defence 33; Vanagian ½, Karpov ½, QP Bogoljubof Defence 15; Korchnoi adj against Torre, QP Kings Indian Defence 40; Miles 1, Nunn 0, QP Kings Indian Defence 27; Speelman adj against Andersson, QGD 41.

Adjourned games results round four: Torre ½, Speelman ½; round six: Chandler ½ Pimman ½; Andersson 0, Polugaievsky 1.

British Airways fare 'predatory'

British Airways is being attacked in the United States for alleged "predatory pricing". The Florida-based Arrow Air Company has complained to the US Civil Aeronautics Board over a £40 cut in the British airline's London-to-Miami fare.

Arrow Air took over the Laker route between Gatwick and Tampa in 1982, charging an approved advanced purchase fare of £339, compared with £379 charged by other leading airlines.

Chained nuns

Nine members of the Catholic Peace Action Group, including two nuns, were arrested outside the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall yesterday after chaining themselves to the main doors in a protest against the Government's nuclear

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 700 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 50; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

Most health farm care is overpriced and ineffective, report says

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Few of the treatments offered by health farms have any lasting benefits and most have more effect on the purse than on the person, according to a *Which?* report published today by the Consumers' Association.

There is no need to spend up to £550 a week for health and beauty care at such establishments, the report says. Beauty therapists offer the same facilities in high street salons at prices which are 10 per cent or 20 per cent lower.

Some of the treatments are "not advisable for people with conditions such as skin allergies, high blood pressure, heart problems or circulatory disorders", the report says.

Inspectors from the Consumers Association visited 12 health farms, costing from about £200 to more than £550 a person a week. They included Georgian and Victorian mansions on secluded private estates, and a Scottish castle.

Treatments on offer ranged from applications of mud packs, seaweed, herbal gels and creams to reduce weight, tone muscles and improve the complexion, to manipulation of the spine, massage of the soles of the feet, and sunlamps and saunas.

All of the treatments were evaluated for *Which?* by medical experts who concluded that few had any lasting benefits. One process aimed at removing dead cells from the surface of the skin with a mildly acidic lotion and a face mask was no more effective than rubbing the skin with a rough face flannel".

The report says that people seeking exercise by participating in a group could find better and cheaper options than health farms, such as weekly local authority classes costing £10 per term, weekend courses in keep-fit or yoga for £30, or £2 a session classes.

"The individual factors which a health farm offers can be found elsewhere, usually at a lower cost", the report says. "The health and beauty treatments will not effect any lasting transformation and may not do you any good at all.

"Exercise is no use unless you keep it up and any weight you lose may quickly be replaced.

"But if you need a complete physical and psychological rest, or if you think you've earned a bit of pampering a few days at a health farm can make you feel terrific."

The report admits: "Our researchers and almost all the people they spoke to thoroughly enjoyed their stay. They felt it had been a relaxing, invigorating break, and that it was worth the money."

The most expensive health farm featured in the report is Champneys at Stobo, in Stobo Castle, Peebleshire, where the basic cost for a week is £555.45p. Mrs Tanya Wheway, a director of the company which owns it, and the £427-a-week Champneys at Tring, Hertfordshire, which is also featured, said: "I think the report is generally quite fair.

"We agree with the doctors about some treatments and tell all our guests that there may be only short-term benefits. They make you feel good and have a relaxing, pampering effect, but we never promise more than that."

Government support on glue-sniffing Bill

By George Hill

A private member's Bill which would stop shopkeepers selling solvents knowingly to young people for use in glue sniffing would be favoured in principle by the Government, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, indicated yesterday.

In a written reply to a Commons question from Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, Conservative MP for Hampstead and Highgate, Mr Brittan said that the Government would be prepared to support a Bill which made it an offence in England and Wales "for a persn to sell substances to young people under the age of 16 if he knows or has reasonable grounds for believing that they are likely to be inhaled to achieve intoxication".

Mr Brittan had promised to consider bringing English law into line with Scottish law last year after two Glasgow shopkeepers were sentenced to three years in prison for selling "glue sniffing kits" to local children. There is no equivalent in English law to the Scottish common-law concept of "culpable and reckless conduct" causing real injury to another person, which the Scottish Court of Criminal Appeal ruled in November could apply to cases of this kind.

"There appears to be little evidence of the sale of such kits in this country", Mr Brittan said. "If new legislation were to be introduced it should probably be extended beyond the sale of kits."

But he added that the Government would wish to consult the police and representatives of manufacturers' and retailers' associations before any such measure was introduced. By implication, the Government would be ready to help with the preparation and drafting of a private member's Bill if a member successful in next session's ballot for parliamentary time sought to promote one, provided that the Government's consultations had been completed.

His statement is a response to concern among some Conservative backbenchers that the Government has underrated public anxiety over the issue.

There have been calls for stronger controls on sales and also for specific legislation against glue-sniffing in public, in view of claims that deaths resulting from the practice rose to 57 last year

Orchestra facing closure

The London Bach Orchestra said yesterday that it was on the brink of closure because of financial difficulties (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

But it will fulfil its English commitments, a concert at the Festival Hall, tonight and on May 25, because two members have underwritten the promotions. The orchestra expects to take up a United States tour next year, which has been financed abroad, but says that it will go into liquidation in Britain soon unless new finance is found.

It is looking for £4,000 to cover present losses, and sponsorship of around £50,000 a year.

The company receives a "small" grant from the London Orchestral Concerts Board, but recently lost the sponsorship of the Czarnikow Group.

Village funeral for Diane Jones

The murdered Esses doctor's wife, Mrs Diane Jones, was buried in the church graveyard of her home village of Tealby, near Market Rasen in Lincolnshire yesterday after a service attended by her husband, Dr Robert Jones, who travelled from his home in Coggeshall, Essex.

Among the 100 mourners was Det Supt Mike Ainsley of Essex police, joint head of the murder inquiry. Mrs Jones's body was found in a wood near Ipswich last November after she had disappeard last summer.

Miss Viktoria Mullova, the violinist, who fled from Russia last year, photographed in London yesterday.

UK debut for violinist who fled

Miss Viktoria Mullova, the brilliant young Soviet violinist who escaped from her KGB escort in Finland 10 months ago, made her British debut on the rostrum of the Festival Hall last night. Standing in at the last moment for Mr Shlomo Mintz, the violinist, who has a throat infection, she performed Sibelius's violin concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under the Finnish conductor, Mr Okko Kamu.

Miss Mullova, who won a Sibelius competition four years ago, was in the United States, where she has lived since her defection, when she was told of Mr Mintz's indisposition. She arrived in London on Wednesday ready to begin rehearsals for last night's concert.

Accompanying her on her short stay in Britain is Mr Vahtang Sordania, the Soviet conductor who joined her on her flight to the West. The two musicians, who were taking part in a concert tour of Finland, slipped away from their Soviet escort and fled cross the Swedish border by taxi. They then travelled by air to Stockholm before seeking asylum in the United States.

Miss Mullova's defection was a severe blow to the Soviet authorities, because as the winner of the 1982 Tchaikovsky prize, she was one of the most talented Soviet musicians of her generation.

Since taking up residence in New York, she has been in demand as a soloist, performing mainly in North America. She has appeared at concerts in Toronto, Los Angeles, Chicago, Indiana, New York and Florida recently. Her only other performance outside the United States and Canada has been in Basle in Switzerland.

Angry Asians in vigil over arrest of woman

By Pat Healy, Race Relations Correspondent

The Asian community of Brick Lane, Tower Hamlets, east London, last night began a vigil outside the house where the husband of Afia Begum died, to mark their anger at her arrest after 15 months in hiding.

Mrs Begum, aged 21, was in Harmondsworth Detention Centre last night awaiting deportation with her daughter Asma. She was arrested yesterday morning at the home of friends living near Brick Lane.

Her arrest and detention brought immediate protests by Labour MPs, who have been supporting her application to stay, since she arrived in Britain in May, 1982. Mrs Begum had been given clearance to join her husband, but he died in a fire before she arrived with her daughter.

At Heathrow airport, she was told that his death meant her circumstances had changed and she would have to return to Bangladesh after sorting out his affairs.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, accused the Government of double standards by speeding up the citizenship application for Zola Budd, while attempting to deport Afia Begum for the "crime" that her husband had died.

Mr Harry Cohen, Labour MP for Leyton, demanded parliamentary time for his 10-minute rule Bill, given leave in the Commons in March, which would prevent women who lost their husbands through death or separation being faced with deportation. He was refused, but Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, agreed to raise the question of Mrs Begum's possible release with the Home Secretary.

Friends at the house where Mrs Begum had been hiding, said that four plain clothes policewomen accompanied by two men, arrived at 6 am and forced their way in. The carried out Mrs Begum without giving her a chance to wash or dress, they said.

Mrs Begum's case is being taken to the European Commission on Human Rights, and her arrest yesterday increased the determination of militant Sari Squad women to tour Europe later this month in support.

British opt for no frills food

Prawn cocktail followed by steak, chips and peas, with gateau afterwards was found to be the most popular restaurant meal in the 1984 Caterer/Gallup Menu survey which covered 850 restaurants throughout Britain, 20 per cent more than in previous surveys.

Meringue-based sweets are most popular in the south of England and least in Wales. Black forest gateau is still the favourite dessert, the survey says.

Gold field

Medieval gold coins have been uncovered by a farmer in a field near Sturminster Newton, Dorset. The 100 nobles, half nobles and quarter nobles, dating from the reigns of Edward III to Henry VI, are with the British Museum pending an inquest.

Brittan agrees £400m satellite TV partnership

The Government's agreement to a £400m direct broadcast by satellite venture by the BBC, independent television companies and another commercial partner is due to be announced on Tuesday.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to give details when he introduces the second reading of the Cable and Broadcasting Bill. The partners believe that Mr Brittan will announce that the independent television companies' franchises will be extended to enable them to raise their £200m stake, and that the BBC will be their majority partner.

The basis for the venture was agreed before Easter between the commercial and public broadcasting organizations and the Home Office and the Department of Trade and Industry. Its supporters feared opposition at Cabinet level, but that appears to have been overcome.

The scheme's critics say that it will give the BBC and independent television companies an unacceptable stranglehold over DBS until the satellite becomes obsolete in 1995.

AIDS cases may reach a million health chief says

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

There could be a million cases of the killer desease AIDS, Acquired Immoral Deficiency Syndrome, worldwide by the end of the century, and known cases in Britain have risen dramatically since the beginning of this year, a senior health executive said yesterday (Our Science Correspondent writes).

Mr Richard Wells, chairman of a working group set up by the Royal College of Nursing to advise nurses on how to deal with AIDS patients, said British cases had increased from 26 to 40 since the start of the year. There have been 22 deaths from the disease.

"In San Francisco there were 52 cases in March and in New York its even worse because there about 66 new cases every month", he said. "If trends continue the predictions are that there will be a million cases worldwide by the end of the century", he said.

Scientists in the United States and France believe they have found a virus which may lead to the development of a Vaccine.

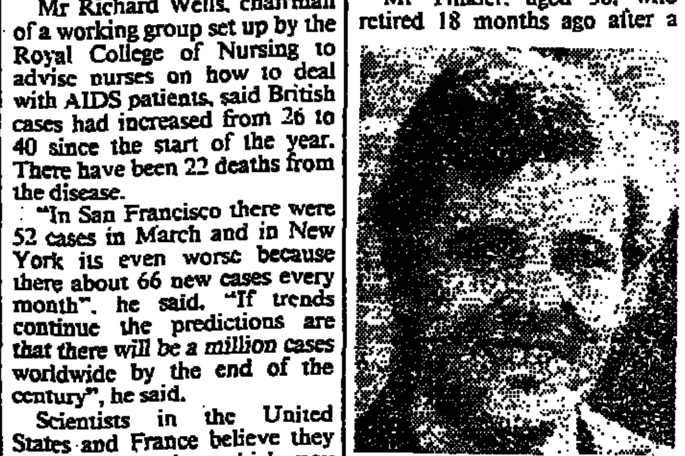
Horse 'in race fraud recognized by scar'

From Our Correspondent, York

A former National Hunt jockey, Colin Tinkler, said yesterday that he recognized the horse in an alleged "ringer" swindle.

He told York Crown Court that he had trained the three-year-old Good Hand at his stable in Malton, North Yorkshire, as a foal, it had received a tell-tale scar in the yard.

Mr Tinkler, aged 30, who retired 18 months ago after a bad fall at Newcastle, said he recognized Good Hand instantly as the horse photographed winning a race for two-year-olds under the name of Flockton Grey.



Colin Tinkler: "Tell-tale scar on horse's leg".

Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC for the prosecution, has alleged that Kenneth Richardson, aged 47, a race horse owner and businessman, masterminded the switch.

Mr Tinkler's brother, Nigel, also a trainer, had sold Good Hand to Mr Richardson's racing manager, Colin Mathison, also accused of the swindle, the jury was told.

It is alleged that Mr Richardson and Mr Mathison, aged 46, stood to win £20,000 after they organized bets to be placed in several towns minutes before the race.

The court was told that with their driver, Peter Boddy, aged 39, they entered Good Hand, in the race at Leicester in spring, 1982.

Mr Richardson, from Hutton, Humberside, Mr Mathison, from Driffield, Humberside. Mr Boddy from Driffield, deny conspiracy todefraud

The trial continues today.

Minister in move to end academic tenure

By John O'Leary
of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

The Government will consider legislation to replace academic tenure, which guarantees job security for thounands of university lecturers, unless reforms are agreed independently in the next year. Mr Peter Brooke, the minister responsible for higher education, says.

Ministers have pressed for action to allow the dismissal of academics since the 1981 cuts in university funding made job losses inevitable. Last year, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, asked the Privy Council not to accept new or amended university charters without such an enabling clause.

University vice-chancellors issued guidelines for reforms two years ago, but only Reading University has inserted a redundancy clause into all new lecturers' contracts. About half the universities have tenured posts.

Mr Brooke is anxious to encourage progress because he expects student numbers to fall in the 1990s, leading to further cuts in university and polytechnics. Tenured posts would be an obstacle to rationalization, although there is disagreement about the likely demand for higher education during the rest of the century.

In an interview published to *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, Mr Brooke said that it was unreasonable to expect universities to make such a fundamental reform. The Government would not intervene until every other avenue had been explored

He said that the natural time for a decision on legislation would come next year, when then the Government will make long-term policy on higher education. A Green Paper is due at the end of this year.

Home workers get job protection

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Up to 600,000 people who work at home or from home may now be entitled to protection under employment laws after a legal ruling won by two women sewing machinists yesterday.

The ruling, by a two-to-one majority in the Court of Appeal, may also bring thousands of "outworkers" within the pay-as-you-earn tax regulations, as they may no longer be considered self-employed.

The court held that two women making boys' trousers at home for a Cambridge clothing company were direct employees entitled to protection against unfair dismissal.

The company, Nethermere (St Neots), had argued that the women were self-employed and not entitled to claim unfair dismissal compensation.

Yesterday Mr Harold Weisseld, Nethermere's managing director, which is appealing against the ruling to the House of Lords, said it could have "very serious repercussions" for the tax position of outworkers.

The ruling is expected to be studied by the Inland Revenue for its effects on workers who say they are self-employed and pay the tax of their earnings themselves. As direct employees, they would have their tax deducted at source.

However, the ruling was welcomed by the Equal Opportunities Commission and the National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses. The federation said the decision gave guidance on how homeworkers' status could be judged.

A spokesman said: "It could help the tax position of the legitimately self-employed by allowing them to keep that status."

The commission's spokesman said: "We are pleased that home workers as a group, who are mostly women, will be considered in the same way as employees. We hope this will afford them much more job protection."

Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Dillon dismissed Nethermere's appeal against a preliminary decision by an industrial tribunal in Cambridge, which was confirmed by the Employment Appeal Tribunal, that the women could proceed with an unfair dismissal complaint.

The complaint, yet to be investigated on its merits, was made by Mrs Maria Taverna, aged 34, and Mrs Lynda Gardiner, aged 26, both of St Neots, who claim they lost their jobs in July 1981 after the company was told they were entitled to holiday pay.

Lord Justice Keer dissented, saying he would have allowed the company's appeal.

Law Report, page 4

Advocacy rule stays

The Prime Minister yesterday ruled out any move to end barristers' monopoly of advocacy rights in the higher courts and extend them to solicitors

In Commons question time she said it was too early to consider altering the present system, under which barristers only have rights of audience in the Crown Court and higher courts.

Mrs Thatcher, who is a barrister, said: "This was considered by the Royal Commission on Legal Services under Lord Benson which reported it would be against the interest of the client to extend the right of audience of solicitors from the lower courts to the higher courts."

The Government had accepted that advice in its response last autumn to the royal commission report and it was too early to reconsider.

PARLIAMENT May 3 1984

Opposing views of Thatcher's first five years

COMMONS

Political obedience had become a condition of appointment for senior positions in the Civil Service, nationalized industries and wage councils since Mrs Thatcher had been elected to power, Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said during questions in the Commons.

He accused the Prime Minister of bringing a greater concentration of power to the central state than ever before in British peacetime history. But Mrs Thatcher strongly denied the charges and read out a list of controls her Government had abolished and said the number of civil servants had been reduced to the lowest number since the war.

Asked by Mr David Penhaligon, the Liberal MP to reveal her biggest mistake since coming to power in 1979 Mrs Thatcher said there was not enough to reveal.

Mr Kinnock began the exchanges when he said: Will the Prime Minister on this election day say whether she is glad or sorry that she who was going to roll back the state, has brought a greater concentration of power to the central state than ever before in British peacetime history?

Mrs Thatcher: That just is not true. We abolished controls on prices, incomes, dividends and exchange rates. We abolished industrial development certificates, office development certificates and many other controls. We have reduced the number of civil servants operating in central government to the lowest number since the war.

Mr Kinnock: The Prime Minister either does not know what she is doing or she has a very selective view of the last five years. Does she recall that she has deprived 13 million people of their votes in Greater London and the Metropolitan counties.

Does she understand the effect of imposing penalties and rate capping on local services which are a matter of life or death for many people in this country?

Does she understand the effect of making £8,800m cuts in rate support grant on the rates of people which have shot up as a result of that?

Does she recall that it is she that has made political obedience a condition of appointment for senior positions in the Civil Service, in nationalized industry boards and wage councils and many other bodies like health authorities.

If she does not think that is a process of centralization and assertion of central state control she does not understand the word democracy. (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: He did not quarrel with any of the replies I gave earlier because they were all deadly accurate. (Labour laughter and Conservative cheers).

In the four years 1979-1983 while prices rose by 55 per cent, earnings by 65 per cent, domestic rates went up on average by 91 per cent and in ten authorities, namely Labour authorities, by 135 per cent.

If people cannot look to the Government to protect them, to whom can they look, especially when one of the functions of Parliament, although he does not recognize it, is to check the tax on people, including rates, and not increase it as he would like to do?

Mr Kinnock: The Prime Minister is the highest taxing Prime Minister in the history of this country. The effect of her policies has been to increase the rate burden on households from an average of £2.46p in 1979 to £6 in 1984.

If she is so keen to cut taxes, why does she not start now and start with the poorest in society, instead of making them pay for the ridiculous ambitions of her Government of starving this country . . . (Loud Conservative laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: If he complains about the height of rates, then he must be in favour of rate capping.

Mr Bryan Gould (Dagenham, Lab) asked what had happened to the March 31 deadline for payment of the £457m rebate from the European Community, and to the tough action she had said would happen if it was not made by the due date.

Mrs Thatcher: The 850m ecu refund negotiated for 1983 should, by virtue of the Stuttgart communique, have been repaid by March 31 this year.

The agreement, which is not a legally binding agreement, was an agreement between heads of government. I am the first to say – and I have said to them – that they have gone back on it.

They do not accept that because they say they did not agree to the communique, but it was an agreement by word among heads of government in the Community and was not legally binding. Therefore, technically, the Community is not in default, but if we were to keep back our contributions, we should be acting contrary to international law.

Mr Tony Baldry (Banbury, C): Has the Prime Minister studied the CBI survey which shows that orders and optimism in industry are greater than for many years?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. This month's CBI survey is good and optimistic.

Milk levy payment delayed to November

DAIRY FARMING

Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, reported to the Commons to cheers from members on both sides that the EEC Commission had agreed to lump the first two payments of milk levy together.

As a result, he said, the first levy payment did not have to be collected until 45 days after the end of September – by mid-November at the latest. This was a move which would help a good many UK dairy producers.

The minister was closely questioned about the problems being faced by dairy farmers, particularly small producers, in cutting back milk production to comply with new quotas and there were calls for a scheme of assistance, proposals in Germany and France being cited.

Mr Jopling explained that detailed rules of the quota scheme were only finalized in Brussels yesterday (Wednesday) and the Government would be considering those details carefully. They would move ahead to deal with special and hard cases as fast as they possibly could.

An appeals procedure needed to be set up quickly to consider compensation for small dairy farmers who were in danger of going bankrupt because of the cutbacks in milk quotas, Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L) said during exchanges after Mr Jopling had said provisional quotas had been allocated to producers related to their deliveries during the reference period. But a reserve of about 2.5 per cent of the quotas had been set aside for special cases which would be carefully considered.

Mr David Maclean (Penrith and The Border, C) said there were special problems for small farmers on wet land, such as in Cumbria, because they often could not move into sheep or cereals.

Mr Jopling: We shall be looking at all hardship cases.

Mr Tom Torney (Bradford S, Lab): Apart from the hardship suffered by all dairy farmers, considerable hardship is going to be experienced by the processing and distribution side of the industry. Creameries are likely to close. Considerable unemployment will be caused.

Mr Jopling: We are well aware of the problems which the imposition of the super levy will cause in all sections of the dairy industry. I have no doubt it will cause problems in some processing plants.

This is inevitble when you cut production levels as we have to. Quite recently we had a situation where 140 tonnes of butter a day were going into intervention.

Mr James Spicer (Dorset West, C) asked for an assurance that the appeals procedure would consider



Hunter: Concern about New Zealand imports

help for small farmers who had not expanded but had to make 20 per cent cuts.

Mr Jopling: I can give the assurance that I shall look at the possibility of helping small producers. This is allowed for under the rules the Commission has looked at. It is not strictly true to say no small producers have not expanded recently. A number have.

Mr James Nicholson (Newry and Armagh, OUP) said the Northern Ireland dairy industry would not have an advantage but the same level of cuts as the rest of the United Kingdom.

Mr Jopling: Northern Ireland has been given the full benefit of the 63.1m litres which I did announce in terms of 65,000 tonnes, and in addition a further allocation so that reduction on 1983 deliveries would be no more than in other regions of the United Kingdom.

Mr Daffydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl C) said one dairy farmer with 60 acres who had increased his milk production at the advice of the ministry now faced bankruptcy.

Mr Jopling said the quotas were decided on 1983 deliveries, which were the most up-to-date pattern of production. The level of production was only one factor in determining productivity.

Mr Colin Shepherd (Hereford, C): Can he confirm that in drawing up the present rules the Milk Marketing Board has been closely involved and consulted and highly regarded.

Mr Jopling: The MMB has been consulted all through this matter. The document the MMB has circulated to MPs did say it would be responsible for paying the levy for all milk produced over the quota and will then recover the relevant part of the levy from those producers in excess of their quota.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) asked what financial assistance the minister was prepared to make available to smaller dairy farmers whose income had been substantially reduced following the recent price review.

Mr Jopling: As part of the agreement to introduce the supplementary levy scheme for milk, agreement was reached to extend the Community scheme to aid the incomes of small-scale milk producers for a further two years.

There are also provisions which may benefit smaller producers in the Community regulations on the supplementary levy scheme for special allocations of milk quota to a producer who is implementation or has recently implemented a milk production development plan under the farm horticulture development and agricultural and horticultural development schemes.

Mr Ross: The press release sent to most MPs from the MMB makes dismal reading. The levy will be delayed for some time. Will he introduce something similar to the German and French schemes and can he put the bottom back into the beef market which would seem to be a sensible step to take?

Mr Jopling: With regard to the outgoing scheme which has already been announced in Germany, I understand that the Netherlands and Denmark have not announced schemes. The fine print of the details of these regulations were only discussed in Brussels yesterday. We shall be considering that provision.

Sir Peter Mills (West Devon and Torridge, C): Would he consider seriously a national scheme to allow, on a voluntary basis, dairy farmers to get out? Other countries are doing it. The milk quota could be re-allocated. It would be a serious blow to dairy farmers in this was available to other Community countries but not to this country.

Mr Jopling: The regulations have only recently come to fruition. A number of states voted against them yesterday in Brussels, including ourselves, because certain details remain unsatisfactory. I hope we will get them right.

I hear what he says about the outgoing schemes which have been taken up by some states and not by others.

Mr Andrew Hunter (Basingstoke, C): In the light of the concern being expressed in some quarters about the volume of dairy produce imported from New Zealand, will he comment on the possibility or otherwise of this being reviewed?

Mr Jopling: The Council of Agricultural Ministers will be meeting on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The import arrangements for New Zealand will be an important matter to be discussed.

The Commission's proposal is that this year 83,000 tonnes of butter should be imported from New Zealand, falling over each of the next five years by 2,000 tonnes each year, falling in five years' time to 75,000 tonnes.

The Government believes strongly that we ought to give that market to New Zealand which is important and essential to her and



Hughes: Exempt small producers from levy

we shall be pressing the Council next week to adopt that proposal of the Commission.

Mr Robert Hughes, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture: By far the best way of providing assistance to smaller producers is to exempt them from the levy and have a sliding scale upwards above a certain figure for the bigger producers.

Mr Jopling: I am surprised that he should say that small farmers should be exempted from the levy. All through the negotiations over the past eight or nine months we have insisted that throughout the Community small farmers should not be exempted.

● Mr Jopling said later he hoped during the existing difficult period for the dairy sector banks would be as tolerant and helpful as possible to their dairy farmer customers.

Dr Mark Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture: It is within his and the Government's power so to arrange our domestic affairs that the small farmers have less burden to pay and a greater burden is placed upon the larger dairy farmer.

Mr Jopling: He is correct in saying it is within the rules of the Community so far as reallocation of quotas, which become unused, to move that in favour of the smaller farmer. This is something we shall be considering very carefully.

Mr Michael Colvin (Romsey and Waterside, C): He appreciates it is going to be difficult for dairy farmers to fine tune production. The dairy cow cannot be turned on and off like a tap.

Would he suggest to the MMB that they consider a scheme whereby they set aside say 1 per cent of the money paid into the co-responsibility fund which is being paid by dairy farmers, to provide a buffer above and below the quota figures which will reduce the risk of bankruptcy to dairy farmers?

Mr Jopling: I do not think it would be within the rules for the Government or the board to keep aside some of the money paid into the co-responsibility fund.

Mr Geraint Howells (Ceredigion and Pembroke North, L) asked if someone bought a non-dairy farm whether he would be allowed to change it to dairy production.

Mr Jopling: This is one of the matters we must consider in detail now that we are getting at last to a point where we know what the detailed rules of the super levy will be.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C): If a tenant farmer is forced out of milk production and out of his tenancy thereby because the land cannot be used for any other form of farming, he loses not only his job, but his home.

Mr Jopling: I hope that will not occur on a large scale but if it does naturally I hope we shall be able to give a little thought to that problem.

Warning to miners on losing good customers

COAL DISPUTE

Any industry which wanted a good future should be careful to keep its customers, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons when replying to one of a a series of questions about the coal dispute. She described Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, as the strikers' friend.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings and Rye, C) said when he raised the matter that the appalling argument between the steel men and the miners' leaders was such that the suicidal stupidity of the miners' leaders was hallmarked by the statement by Mr Mick McGahey that closing down the industry would not lose jobs.

There is a conflict (he said) between steel men who know that only customers make jobs and miners' leaders who do not know how to keep jobs.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree. The steel industry is a good customer for coal and one would think that an industry which wanted a good future would be careful to keep customers.

Mr Richard Hickmet (Glanford and Scunthorpe, C): Is it not time for the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the National Union of Railwaymen and Aslef to abandon support for the strike of miners because of the effect on jobs at Ravenscraig and Scunthorpe.

The action of some miners' leaders demonstrates the ruthless political means they will go to to achieve their objectives. Will she tell the Leader of the Opposition that Conservatives, who represent the workers in this country, do not expect steel workers to pay 50p a week to striking miners.

Mrs Thatcher: Strikes lose jobs, sometimes in the industry in which the strike occurs, and sometimes in other industries as well. Mr Kinnock is a strikers' friend.

Mr Jack Dormand (Easington, Lab): She has said on a number of occasions that the National Coal Board ought to be allowed to get on with its job without interference from the Government.

If that is the policy and philosophy of the Government towards nationalized industries why did she force the electricity board and the gas board to put up prices substantially, against their commercial judgment and publicly stated objections?

Mrs Thatcher: The Goverment sets objectives, including financial objectives, to give a good return on the taxpayers' money. It sets an external financial limit and broadly leaves management to get on with the job.

Docklands Bill

The London Docklands Railway (No 2) Bill was read a second time in the Commons.

Government defeated on sale of school houses

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government was defeated by 11 votes in the House of Lords on an amendment considered on third reading of the Tenants' Rights Etc (Scotland) Amendment Bill. The effect of the amendment was to give to local authorities on Scottish islands the right to refuse to sell to tenants houses needed for educational purposes without first referring the matter to the Secretary of State for Scotland.

The amendment, moved by Lord Ross of Marnock for the Opposition, was carried by 95 votes to 84. Lord Ross of Marnock said houses occupied by teachers on the mainland were owned by the regional councils so there was no question of teachers being allowed to buy them. On the islands though, the councils were both education and housing authorities so that teachers did have the right to buy.

In the remote parts of the mainland and the islands, it was impossible to get a teacher unless there was a house available. The Government recognized this in the Bill, but gave the deciding voice to the Secretary of State.

The amendment would put the islands councils in the same position as education authorities on the mainland of Scotland.

Lord Grimond (L) said that many of the houses concerned were on separate islands which made it all the more necessary that the local authority should have control over them.

Lord Gray of Contin, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said the Government recognized that the islands councils should not be required to sell houses in remote areas when they were needed for educational purposes in order to attract teachers.

The difficulty arose over how that could best be achieved because the islands councils were both education and housing authorities, therefore their tenants were secure tenants. The houses had no easily distinguishable characteristics to mark those needed for education from the general housing stock.

The only way therefore to put the islands councils on the same footing as other education authorities would be by taking the whole of their housing stock outside the right to buy and removing security of tenure from all their tenants.

The Bill was read the third time.

Progress of Bills

The Anatomy Bill which replaces the Anatomy Act 1832, provides that examinations may only be carried out and possession of specimens may only be held in special circumstances, and requires a licence and that the body shall have been duly donated, was read the third time in the Lords and passed.

The Law Reform (Husband and Wife) (Scotland) Bill which amends the law relating to husband and wife and breach of promise of marriage, was also read the third time and passed.

DHSS Bill through

The Health and Social Security Bill, which changes the law on social security, statutory sick pay, contracted-out occupational pension schemes and the supply of spectacles and contact lenses, was read the third time in the Commons early today by 118 votes to 20 – Government majority, 98.

Statement on pay review after recess

The Government will be considering the recommendations of the various review bodies covering the pay of nurses, and others in the public sector together over the Whitsun recess and will make a statement after the recess in June.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, disclosed this during questions in the Commons in reply to Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party.

Mr Steel asked: Will Mrs Thatcher reassure the House, contrary to newspaper speculation, that she will honour the commitment to the nursing profession and implement the recommendations of the review body?

Mrs Thatcher: The review body report on nurses pay has reached the Government and so, now, have the other review body reports. We shall be considering them together and hope to be in a position to make a statement after the Whitsun recess.

Abolition of surcharge welcomed

FINANCE BILL

The opposition welcomed the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge, Mr Terence Davis, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs said in the Commons when the committee stage of the Finance Bill was resumed.

Earlier, he moved an amendment he said was designed to put local authorities and some other bodies, including police authorities, on the same basis as privately-owned industry. As the Bill stood, NIS would be abolished from October, 1984 for the latter and from April, 1985 for the former.

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, rejecting the amendment, said it would cost £85m and it would be wrong to allow them to enjoy the benfit of a relief they could not possibly have taken into account when they set their expenditure plans.

The amendment was rejected by 151 votes to 36 – Government majority, 115.

In the general debate on the clause on abolition Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) said that Labour had introduced the surcharge but the economic conditions had been different then. Unemployment had been under one million. It was now over 4 million. So there was nothing inconsistent in Labour's repeated demands for the abolition of the surcharge.

Mr Archy Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L) said the surprising thing about this penal and wholly bad bax was that it was not abolished much earlier. Industry and commerce would have been given a significant fillip if this had happened 12 months or two years ago.

He hoped that the Government's experience with this tax during its term of office would dissuade future administrations of whatever political colour from gong down this road again. There were other ways of raising revenue.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) said this was a tax on jobs which was totally unjustifiable in a period of rising unemployment.

Our complaint about this change (he said) is that it has been left too late: done too slowly: and now the Government must go further than they have. It is not sufficient to give the boost to manufacturing industry that it needs.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C) said that judging from the miserable speeches by Labour MPs the House would not think that the surcharge was going to be abolished.

It is not just a tax on jobs (he said), it is a tax o incentive and a tax on exports. The abolition of this surcharge will be shown in the next few years to be possibly one of the most significant improvements in our economic management which has so far taken place.

Sea fishing licence rules modified

Rules governing the issuing of fishing licences for sea-fishing have been modified, Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, announced in the Commons.

He said: Following the announcement of new pressure stock licencing arrangements on February 3, representations were received on individual cases of eligibility for licences and on the principles of the system.

After careful condideration, we have modified some of the rules, in particular to allow licences for vessels acquired by fishermen who were temporarily without a vessel on February 3 but could demonstrate a recent history of pressure stock fishing.

But the basic purpose of the schemes, namely the containment of the number of vessels able to fish for pressure stock, stands

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Tuesday: Cable and Broadcasting Bill, second reading.

Wednesday and Thursday: Progress in Committee on the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill.

Friday: Debate on policing in London.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Tuesday: Rates Bill, committee, third day.

Wednesday: Debate on unemployment.

Thursday: Housing and Building Control Bill, Commons amendments. Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, committee, second day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on Griffiths report on NHS management.
Lords (11): Juries (Disqualification) Bill, second reading. Video Recordings Bill, committee, second day.

Court of Appeal — Law Report May 4 1984 — Queen's Bench Division

Home workers have status of employed persons

Nethermere (St Neots) Ltd v Taverna and Another

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice Dillon

[Judgment delivered May 3]

Part-time home workers who worked on the machines supplied by the employers but as and when they pleased were employees within the meaning of section 153(1) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kerr dissenting) dismissed an appeal by the employers, Nethermere (St Neots) Ltd, from the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (*The Times* November 17, 1982; [1983] ICR 319), whereby the appeal tribunal (Mr Justice Tudor Evans, dissenting, Miss J. Collerson and Mrs D. Lancaster) dismissed an appeal by the employers from a decision of a Cambridge industrial tribunal in November 1981, on a preliminary issue, that the applicants Mrs Maria Taverna and Mrs Lynda Gardiner, were employees within the meaning of section 153(1) and were entitled to bring complaints of unfair dismissal.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC and Mr C. J. M. Jeans for the employers; Mr Geraint Jones for the applicants.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON said that the employers were manufacturers of boys' trousers and employed about seventy employees in their factory. They deducted tax from those employees' wages and made national insurance contributions. They also used the services of home workers from whose pay they did not make such deductions.

The applicants worked at home. Work for them was delivered at home daily. They worked from between four and seven hours a day on machines provided by the employers.

There were occasions when the applicants did no work for periods of several weeks. It was for them to decide how much work they did.

The only condition was that the work done should be enough to make it worthwhile for the employers' drivers to call. The applicants were paid according to the amount of work they did.

A dispute arose between the parties about holiday pay and the arrangement was discontinued. The applicants complained to an industrial tribunal that they had been unfairly dismissed.

The tribunal considered as a preliminary issue the question whether the applicants were employees within the meaning of the 1978 Act.

The tribunal applied the test laid down by the Court of Appeal in *Young & Ward Ltd v West* ([1980] IRLR 201), namely, whether the applicants were performing their services in business on their own account. They concluded that the applicants were not and that they were employees.

On appeal by the employers the appeal tribunal, by a majority, dismissed the appeal on the grounds that since the employers provided the machines the applicants could not change the nature of the work they did or refuse to do work once they had accepted it, and that since the applicants were not running any financial risk, they were working under contracts of service and were employees. The employers appealed.

The law required mutual obligation before there could be a contract of service. If there was no contractual obligation either on the employers to offer work or on the applicants to do work there was no contract of service: see *O'Kelly v Trusthouse Forte plc* (*The Times* July 21, 1983; [1984] 1 QB 90).

But having looked at the industrial tribunal's decision, his Lordship concluded it did not involve a complete rejection of mutual obligations and must be taken to have followed *Airfix Footwear Ltd v Cope* ([1978] ICR 1210) in finding that there was an 'overall' or 'umbrella' contract obliging the employers to continue to provide and pay for work and the applicants to continue to accept and peform the work provided.

His Lordship did not feel driven to hold that the industrial tribunal was making the error made by the appeal tribunal of deciding that no such mutual obligations were necessary and the test in *Market Investigations Ltd v Minister of Social Security* ([1969] 2 QB 173) provided a contract of service when there were no such obligations.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that the issue was whether the decision of the industrial tribunal could withstand the tests laid down in *Edwards v Bairstow* ([1956] AC 14) and in the many authorities which followed it, including *O'Kelly v Trusthouse Forte plc* in the present context.

The industrial tribunal erred in law in concluding, on the facts which they found and the reasons which they gave for their decision, that the applicants were working for the employers under a contract of employment, because there was every indication that the tribunal reached that conclusion without considering whether the parties were subject to any mutually binding contractual obligations, and indeed probably proceeded on the basis that there was none.

The crucial issue in contention was whether the workers were to be regarded as having worked under a contract of service, as they contended, or under a contract for services as the employers contented.

The determination of the statutory issue whether the applicants were employees under section 54(1) of the 1978 Act involved a two-stage process.

The first required the determination of the question whether there was any contractually binding nexus between the alleged employees and the alleged employer in relation to the employment in question. That was be a question of law.

The second stage, if some binding contract existed as a matter of law, was then to classify or define the nature of the contractual relationship.

Some contracts which required a person to work for another would be contracts of employment or contracts of service, to use the statutory definitions in section 153(1) of the Act which derived from "employment" and "employee" in section 54(1). Other such contracts would be contracts for services or to be classified still more succinctly in some other way.

At the second stage of classification, the correct analysis of the contractual relationship between the parties involved questions of fact and degree.

The industrial tribunal plunged straight into the second stage on the basis of what it regarded as the "fundamental" test.

That was a somewhat misleading adjective and it had no bearing on the crucial first stage of determining whether there was any binding contract. It was no more than a useful means of classifying the nature of the necessary contractual relationship at the second stage.

On the basis of that test the tribunal reached its primary conclusions, namely, that quite clearly the ladies in this case were not in business on their own account and according to that fundamental test they were employees.

That could only be a correct conclusion if the tribunal had first addressed its mind to the question, and had concluded, that the ladies were under some legally binding obligation to accept and perform some minimum, or at least reasonable, amount of work for the employers.

The need for some obligations was recognized in *Airfix Footwear Ltd v Cope* and a course of dealing could be used as a basis for implying terms into individual contracts which were concluded pursuant thereto, but his Lordship could find no authority for the proposition that even a lengthy course of dealing could somehow convert itself into a contractually binding obligation – subject only to reasonable notice – to continue to enter into individual contracts, or to be subject to some "umbrella" contract.

It was that feature which distinguished the present case from all its predecessors in which similar issues had arisen and which justified the conclusion, following *Edwards v Bairstow*, that the decision of the tribunal contained an error of law on its face. His Lordship would, accordingly, have allowed the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that he would accept that an arrangement under which there was never any obligation on the outworkers to do work or on the employers to provide work could not be a contract of service.

But the mere facts that the outworkers could fix their own hours of work, could take holidays and time off when they wished and could vary how many garments they were willing to take on any day or even to take none on a particular day, while undoubtedly factors for the industrial tribunal to consider in deciding whether or not there was a contract of service, did not as a matter of law negative the existence of such a contract.

There was no reason in law why the existence of a contract of service might not be inferred from a course of dealing, continued between the parties over several years. The fact that machines were supplied by the employers to each of the applicants indicated, at the least, an expectation on both sides

It was unreal to suppose that the work in fact done by the applicants for the employers over not inconsiderable periods was done merely as a result of the pressures of market forces on the applicants and the employers and under no contract at all.

There was a regular course of dealing between the parties for years under which garments were supplied daily to the outworkers, worked on, collected and paid for. If it was permissible on the evidence to find that by such conduct a contract had been established between each applicant and the employers, there was no necessity to conclude that that contract must have been a contract for services and not a contract of service.

Solicitors: Polden Bishop & Gale; Wilkinson & Butler, St Neots.

Publishing spent convictions

Herbage v Pressdram Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Kerr

[Judgment delivered May 1]

The effect of section 8(3) and (5) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 was to put a rehabilitated offender, who sought an interlocutory injunction in a libel action to prevent publication of his spent conviction, in the same position as someone against whom a defence of qualified privilege was relied upon.

It was now settled law in such cases that a court would only intervene by way of interlocutory injunction where there was overwhelming evidence of malice (that is, publication with some irrelevant, spiteful or improper motive): see *Coulson v Coulson* ((1887) 3 TLR 846).

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Alex William Herbage, from the refusal by Mr Justice Webster on November 10, 1983, to grant him an interlocutory injunction preventing further publication by the defendants of his spent convictions.

Mr Richard Slowe for the plaintiff; Mr Desmond Browne for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE GRIFFITHS said that the 1974 Act put a convicted person who had rehabilitated himself into a more advantageous position than one who had not rehabilitated himself, because it allowed him to recover damages for libel where his conviction was published, even though it was true, providing he could show that publication had been malicious.

Accordingly, there was no good reason why, as Mr Slowe had submitted, the court should approach an application for an interlocutory injunction by a rehabilitated offender in any manner different from any other defamation action where the issue was malice, or why, exceptionally, the court should adopt the approach recommended in *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd* ([1975] AC 396), contrary to the practice in libel cases established by *Trevor v Solomon* (unreported; Court of Appeal, December 14, 1977).

Lord Justice Kerr agreed.

Solicitors: Hamlin Slowe; Bindman & Partners.

Damages recoverable for shock on seeing spouse's injuries

Whitmore and Another v Euroways Express Coaches Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice Comyn

[Judgment delivered May 3]

Damages could be recovered for shock suffered as a result of seeing one's spouse severely injured and being with him while he was in hospital, even though it had not resulted in any medical shock or psychiatric disorder.

Mr Justice Comyn so held in the Queen's Bench Division, awarding the second plaintiff, Shirley Maureen Whitmore, damages against the third defendant, Auto Transportes Julia SA, for injuries sustained by her when a coach in which she was travelling overturned in France, on November 1, 1980, and for the shock she suffered as a result of witnessing her husband, the first plaintiff, who had been sitting beside her, seriously injured and of being with him for a period after the accident.

Mr Anthony Temple for Mrs Whitmore; Mr Jonathan Woods for the third defendant.

MR JUSTICE COMYN said that it was his firm and strongly held belief that it was the court's duty in personal injury cases to exercise common sense and reasonableness and to apply tests which did not repose solely in judges but were shared by ordinary people.

The courts were dealing with ordinary people who had suffered injury and their claims for damages should be judged in an ordinary, down-to-earth and realistic manner and should not be subject to artificialities and technicalities with which the law was already too hidebound.

His Lordship would not depart from the law as it had been laid down, but he strongly held the view that the law was harsh in making worry, strain and distress occasioned by the continuing effects of injury to a spouse irrecoverable in damages.

That, however, was the law, and so it was necessary to draw a sharp line between shock occasioned by her husband's plight, on the one hand, and the worry, strain and distress the second plaintiff suffered as a result of her husband's injuries and their continuing effects, on the other, and to determine the point in time at which the former gave way to the latter.

The third defendant had argued that the second plaintiff could not recover damages for the shock she had suffered on account of her husband's plight because there had been no medical or psychiatric evidence adduced that she had suffered shock.

If psychiatric shock had been alleged, medical evidence would have been necessary, but the second plaintiff was claiming that she had suffered shock in its ordinary, everyday meaning, not in a medical or psychiatric sense.

Such "ordinary shock" was not susceptible of further definition but was a concept which everyone understood. His Lordship was in as good a position as any psychiatrist or doctor to judge whether Mrs Whitmore had suffered "ordinary shock" (his Lordship eschewed the expression "nervous shock").

His Lordship was satisfied that the second plaintiff had suffered profound shock when her husband was first injured and that that shock had continued, because of the severity of his injuries, while he had been in hospital in France and even when they had returned to England, until Christmas 1980.

Having looked at other cases in which damages had been awarded for various types of shock in a variety of circumstances, this case was unique in that it focused attention acutely upon shock suffered by a wife on witnessing a dreadful accident to her husband which endured beyond the moment of impact but which was not psychiatric in character.

His Lordship had no hesitation whatever in holding that the second plaintiff could recover damages in respect of that shock, but it was very different to measure in monetary terms; he had concluded that the right figure was £2,000.

The third defendant had objected to the admission of some of the second plaintiff's evidence on the basis that it went beyond the agreed medical reports.

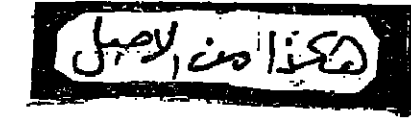
While as a general rule evidence should not be admitted which went beyond the agreed reports, the court had a discretion to admit such evidence where it would be fair and reasonable and subject to reasonable limits.

The third defendant had not been taken unduly by surprise and had not been seriously disadvantaged. The person who knew best what injuries a person had suffered and continued to suffer was the victim herself, and his Lordship accepted her evidence implicitly.

In his discretion he had therefore admitted the evidence.

For the plaintiff's head injury and consequent scarring, numbness, headaches and recurrent nightmares, for bruising, trauma and shock arising from her own injuries, for injuries to her shoulder and the reduction in her general enjoyment of life, his Lordship would award £4,500.

Solicitors: Kenneth Brown Baker Baker; Stevensons.





Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

"We are dealing, I must say bluntly to the House", the Prime Minister declared, "with circumstances in which no government here or in any other country would say more than I am prepared to say to the House tonight". Those words were not spoken this week; the Prime Minister in question was not Mrs Thatcher: and the circumstances were not the murderous activities of the Libyan People's Bureau.

Anthony Eden was speaking to the Commons in 1956 about the disappearance of Commander Crabb, the frogman, in what was widely presumed to be an intelligence operation in Portsmouth harbour near the destroyers which had brought Krushchev and Bulganin to Britain. A fortnight later the Speaker refused to allow any further questions on the incident, on the ground that the Prime Minister had given an absolute refusal to answer them.

Fury with Gaddafi will not melt away

The whole episode illustrates how difficult it is to keep a political issue alive when ministers are declining to say anything more for reasons of national security. Interests in the espionage aspects of the case remained for some time. But as a political issue it died within a matter of days.

So now with the Libyan People's Bureau. The national fury with Colonel Gaddafi will not melt away. Public interest will reamin in such questions as the limits of diplomatic immunity and the shipment of arms through diplomatic bags. But as a domestic political issue I believe that the episode is now dead.

Mrs Thatcher has made it clear that there will be no independent Inquiry, simply an internal review under the Cabinet Office to see if there are lessons to be learned in the handling of intelligence. That decision may be right or wrong – and I must confess that I am not entirely convinced that it would have been inappropriate to bring in the Security Commission – but there is every impression that it is final.

Mrs Thatcher is not going to budge, and there is not much now to be gained by trying to make her do so. All she would need to do would be to go on maintaining that intellingence considerations require secrecy.

Seeking lessons for the future

The foreign affairs select committee of the House of Commons is to undertake an urgent inquiry into diplomatic immunities and privileges. That may be embarrassing for ministers if the committee criticizes the failure to break off diplomatic relations after the People's Bureau was taken over in February by revolutionaries who were not recognized as accredited diplomats.

But the mood of the committee at this stage seems to be more reflective than accusatory. The inclination is principally to see what lessons can be learnt for the future. Once the committee becomes embroiled in the technicalities of the Vienna Convention it may not be able to conclude its work swiftly.

The home affairs select committee met on Wednesday but it is not to conduct any special inquiry into this incident. It will remind the Government that it is still awaiting a reply to its 1980 report on public order, but there is no disposition from any secton of the committee to go further.

Government now more vulnerable

So the fortunes of the parties are not likely to rise or fall because of what happened in St James's Square. But this does not mean that the episode was of no political consequence at all. It will mean that if there is ever another incident of this nature the Government will be much more vulnerable politically, and it has had its effect already on the standing of individual politicians.

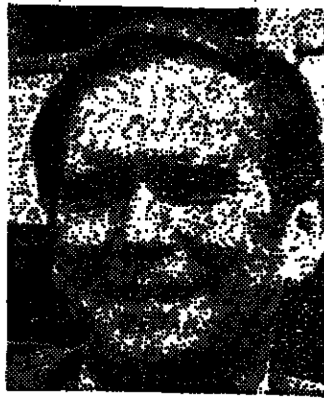
The Home Secretary, who has had to bear the main burden of parliamentary explanation, has conducted an effective exercise in damage limitation. Mr Brittan has not enjoyed a parliamentary triumph, but he has avoided any blunders – which was what mattered to the Government. Dr Owen has confirmed his reputation as the most effective performer on any opposition party, and Mr Healey demonstrated how erratic he can be by putting up his worst parliamentary performance since the election. But St James's Square 1984 will be remembered as a human tragedy and an international outrage, not as an important event in British politics.

Research body aims to increase government funds to social science

By Peter Hennessy

The Economic and Social Research Council will approve a new strategy at a meeting in London today designed to boost the contribution of government-sponsored social science to the process of economic and social change in Britain.

It comes after a review of the priorities of the council (formerly known as the Social Science Research Council SSRC) undertaken by Professor Sir Douglas Hague, who took over as chairman last autumn.



Sir Douglas Hague: Dramatic developments.

Sir Douglas believes the information revolution is producing economic and technical changes which "together are causing all sorts of dramatic developments" and that the council has a significant contribution to make to help the British economy compete successfully in world markets in the difficult climate of the 1980s and 1990s.

He said yesterday: "You cannot manage the introduction of new technologies unless you recognize that social science, especially management science, has a contribution to make".

The Hague plan involves the allocation of £411,000 in 1985-86, about a third of the council's uncommitted finance, to the theme of "Change in Britain". That sum will double in the two successive years.

The council is to hold a seminar in July at hich the chairman of its six interdisciplinary committees will present papers linking the change theme to their research programmes.

Dealers in Vulcans may lose

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

Scrap metal dealers who bought for a few hundred pounds the engines from Vulcan bombers, each valued at nearly £750,000 by the Ministry of Defence, are in danger of losing money on the deal.

Sir Clive Whitmore, Permanent Secretary at the ministry, told the Commons Public Accounts Committee, that when the Vulcan was withdrawn from service last year, 175 Olympus engines were sold for scrap for prices as low as £350 each.

The engines were bought by competitive tender, and 33 of them went to W Harold John (Metals) of Newport, Gwent. Mr Peter John a director, said that they had paid an average of about £550 for theirs, and they would be lucky to break even.

They had advertised them for sale quite widely. There had been suggestions they might be used for electricity generation and other purposes, but nothing had come of it.

Mr John said stripping them down for scrap had involved a great deal of work, perhaps costing about £500 an engine. They still had "an awful lot of bits" of the engines lying around, and they would be lucky to recover their costs in selling the scrap.

High success rate in legal aid cases

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

A quarter of a million people in Scotland, one in every 18, received legal aid for criminal and civil cases last year, according to the latest annual report on the Scottish legal aid scheme.

Legal advice on civil matters such as marriage, debts, hire purchase and wills covered almost half the cases at an average cost of £45 a case. Of about 26,000 civil cases going to the courts, about half were divorce proceedings.

Nine out of 10 such cases going to the courts were successful. Mr Sandy McIlwain, president of the Law Society of Scotland, which administers the scheme, said the success rate was "exceptionally high" and it was worth remembering that without legal aid, none of the actions could have proceeded.

Damages of almost £4.25m were obtained by people helped by legal aid and legal expenses of £1.5m were recovered from unsuccessful opponents and ploughed back into the legal aid fund.

In criminal legal aid, more than 55,000 applications were approved for legal aid in criminal cases in all Scottish courts, the report says. There was a sharp increase in the number of trials.

*Annual report on the Scottish legal aid scheme. (Stationery Office, £3.90.)

Russia changes rules to ban food parcels

By David Cross

Britons with friends and relatives in the Soviet Union will effectively be prevented from sending much needed parcels of food and clothing under new Russian import regulations that have just come to light.

The new rules are seen by human rights groups as part of a concerted campaign to make life more difficult for minorities in the Soviet Union with contacts in the West.

For many years the Soviet authorities have allowed a limited number of trading companies in the West to pay duty on postal packages before they are exported. Last year, for exmple, more than 30,000 parcels containing items such as clothing, linen and dry foods were sent from Britain under the prepaid duty system.

But last week the Soviet trade ministry told trading companies in Britain, the United States, Canada, Switzerland and Denmark that from August 1 duty would have to be paid by the recipient of the goods in the Soviet Union. The Ministry blamed rising costs for the decision to terminate the prepaid duty system.

The change will mean a steep rise in the amount of duty likely to be charged on goods posted to the Soviet Union, as well as more pilferage when parcles are opened by the authorities to examime their contents. Under the prepaid system, the total duty on a pair of jeans is 10 roubles (about £9) compared with 50 roubles when duty is paid in the Soviet Union.

Spokesmen for two London companies which are going out of business as a result of the new rules said yesterday that they did not believe the Soviet explanation of rising costs. Last year they sent a total of about £2m worth of duty to the Soviet authorities.

A spokeswoman for Belins and Partners Ltd, which acts as an agent for the British and Foreign Export Company Ltd, said that the Soviet authorities had been making life increasingly difficult for them in recent months.

Last January the Russians had demanded a £30,00 guarantee as a security against future duty payments and this had driven another firm, Dinerman and Company Ltd, of Regent Street, out of business.

"We feel that the Soviet authorities would have preferred all of us to have given up our trading activities without further ado," the spokeswoman said. The new regulations had been the final straw, she added.

The end of the prepaid duty system was yet another example of Soviet discrimination against minorities like Soviet Jews, a spokeswoman for the Women's Organization for Soviet Jewry said yesterday.

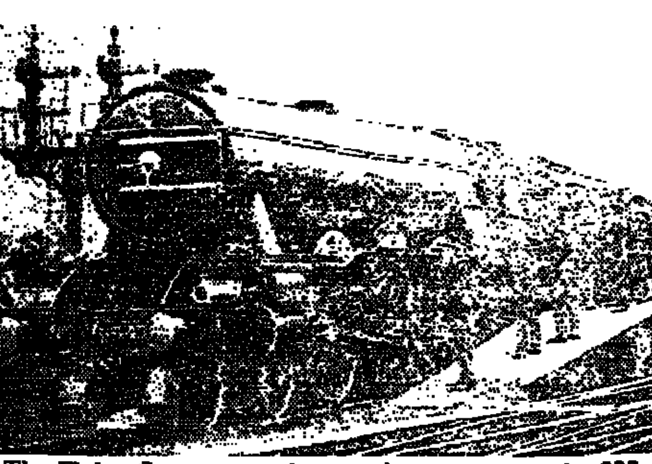
British industry trails in new technology use

British industry is lagging behind its main foreign competitors in embracing new technology, a five-nation survey published yesterday claims.

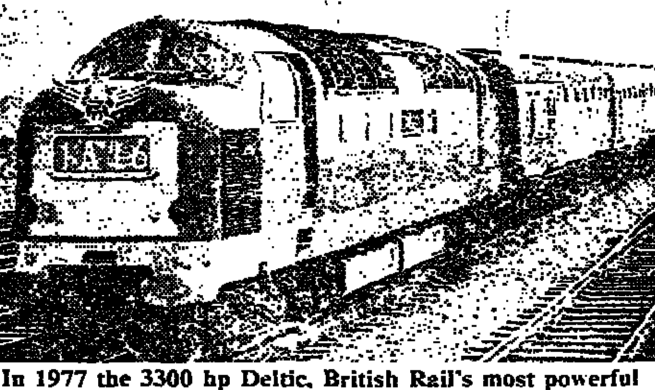
The study was conducted in Britain (Our Technology Correspondent writes). West Germany, Belgium, Australia and the United States for technical and managerial consultants PA Technology and by MORI, more than 500 board directors were questioned.

PA concludes: "Britain fared badly in almost every category of the international comparison. Two-fifths (39 per cent) of British companies claimed to have no strategy for innovation and the application of new technology compared with Belgium (22 per cent) (west Germany (27 per cent). USA (36 per cent) and Australia (37 per cent)".

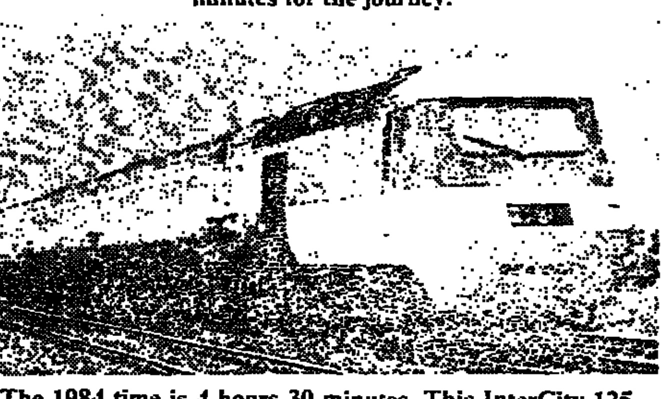
Although the British had confidence in their products, only about one in five of the 102 businessmen surveyed in Britain felt that technology had great impact.



The Flying Scotsman took seven hours to cover the 393 miles from London to Edinburgh in 1938. This was Sir Nigel Gresley's Pacific-class steam locomotive.



In 1977 the 3300 hp Deltic, British Rail's most powerful diesel-electric locomotive of the day, took 5 hours 27 minutes for the journey.



The 1984 time is 4 hours 30 minutes. This InterCity 125, with 4500 hp from front and rear power cars, has a maximum speed of 125 mph.

Edinburgh flyer cuts trip to 4½ hours

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

The Flying Scotsman will fly even faster between London and Edinburgh this month with a new record scheduled time of 4 hours 30 minutes for the 393-mile journey compared with the present 4 hours 35 minutes.

That will make it one of British Rail's fastest trains, with a journey time little over half that achieved early this century, when fast steam expresses first gave the train its worldwide fame.

The new timing, by British Rail's 125 mph InterCity 125s, trims an hour off the 1960s and 1970s when the powerful Deltic diesels took 5 hours 27 minutes; and two and a half hours off the 7 hours taken by the famous steam-hauled trains of the 1930s.

Before that for 40 years the journey took 8½ hours. The railway companies raced their trains up the east and west coast routes to Scotland in 1888, then made a gentleman's agreement not to go on behaving like that.

But the prospect of even faster trains in the future is "fairly limited" Mr Frank Paterson, Eastern Region's general manager said at a press conference in York yesterday. But in the 1990s electric trains travelling at 140 mph should cut the time to about four hours, assuming government approval

Speed improvements now owe much more to costly track improvements than faster trains. This month's speed-up springs largely from a 14-mile stretch of new track avoiding the big new coalfield at Selby.

Eastern Region are also speeding-up answers to passengers' telephone inquiries with new electronic aids and extra staff

Also speeded-up are rail services from London to Aberdeen (6 hours 59 minutes) and Inverness (8 hours 50 minutes); the latter a two hour gain on the existing Clansman via Glasgow.

Heathrow cross landing plan

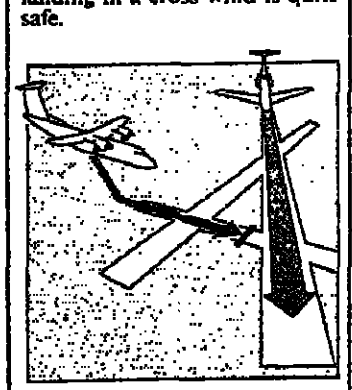
A novel way to beat traffic congestion at Heathrow Airport has been proposed to Britain's Civil Aviation Authority this weel by Brymon Airways, the short-take-off-and-landing (Stol) airline that wants to operate from London's docklands.. (Michael Baily, Our Transport Editor, writes).

It involved Stol aircraft, which need only 300 yards to land using a short cross runway at the same time as, and without interfering with, the main traffic flow by big jets using the main runways into the prevailing wind.

Brymon claim that the system would allow flights to Heathrow to rise above the proposed 275,000 limit without noticeably increasing noise, and that the £15 a head "poll tax" the Government are considering to keep Heathrow domestic flights down would become unnecessary.

Cross landing of this kind has not been used in Britain before. Heathrow is the only airport where congestion would commend it, but has been used for some time in America, notably at New York, Washington, and San Francisco.

The 50-seat de Haviland Dash-7 used by Brymon is claimed to be one of the world's quietest aircraft, and its landing characteristics are such that landing in a cross wind is quite safe.



£1bn boom

An estimated £1,038m was spent by visitors to the West Country in 1983, against £876m the previous year, the West Country Tourist Board reported yesterday.

Turnover in negotiators criticized

Britain is hampered in crucial EEC farm negotiations by the career structure of her Civil Service, MPs were told yesterday (Richard Evens writes).

In contrast to government officials from other EEC countries, British civil servants rarely stay in one job in Brussels for a long time before being moved on to new posts and so rarely have full knowledge of subjects under discussions.

To make matters worse some EEC countries appoint people from the agricultural trade as civil servants for a day in discussions with the European Commission.

Mr Roger Dean, deputy director general of the UK Agricultural Supply Trade Association said: "As soon as we have got an organized set-up and the civil servants know what we are trying to do then they depart for pastures new".

Dr Brian Cooke, chairman of the association's scientific committee, said civil servants often went to negotiate on a particular point in Brussels only to find another subject came up

Farmers' free milk protest on quotas

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers in Dorset are to give away free milk on May 28, the Spring Bank holiday, in protest against the imposition of productions quotas.

"The milk we will be giving would be taxed at a far higher price than would be paid for it, and farmers feel therefore that it is better to be given away", Mr Alan Roberts, National Farmers Union county secretary, said.

"We have always agreed that it was nonsene to go on financing surplus production out of taxpayers' money", he added. "We said two or three years ago that we would be happy ot see measures taken, perhaps through price controls.

"But to expect farmers to cut back production overnight is quite ridiculous. In Britain we have had the worst deal of any country in Europe.

Under the EEC-imposed scheme, the milk marketing boards in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will be required to pay a penal levy to Brussels on all production in excess of their allocated quotas. The levy may then be passed on to farmers who produce more than their agreed quantities.

In theory the levy could be as high as 17.47p a litre, which is 100 per cent of the EEC "target price." The actual price paid by the boards to farmers varies from month to month, and is complicated by new additions and deductions based on butterfat, protein and lactose content, but the England and Wales board has estimated the average price for this year at 14.3p a litre.

Over-producing farmers are unlikely to be asked to pay the full levy, as their excess can be offset against shortfalls on the part of farmers whose herds are affected by disease, or who decide to give up dairying.

The National Farmers' Union has said it hopes that the maximum penalty will not exceed about 13p a litre, but that, whatever happens, farmers who exceed their quotas will inevitably suffer financially.

Proposal to raise damages

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Damages for personal injury and fatal accidents should be assessed by courts on the basis that the income lost is invested in index-linked government stock, a working party of actuaries and lawyers proposed yesterday.

The controversial proposal could mean higher sums would be awarded to those injured and to dependants of those killed where damages are payable over a number of years, the working party says.

In a report the working party, under Mr Michael Ogen QC, says that at present courts seek to put the wage earner, or his dependants if he has been killed, into the same financial position as if the accident had not occurred.

It is up to him to invest that lump sum as best he can to replace the income lost for which he is being compensated. In most cases the courts have decided that inflation should be disregarded on the ground that it can be dealt with by prudent investment policy.

But such investment is difficult to estimate and match precisely to lost income, with an "unavoidable risk of injustice to either plaintiff or defendant, the working party says.

With the issue in 1981 of index-linked government stock, however, there can be an accurate assessment on the basis of assumed investment in such stocks, the working party says.

"If the loss is, say, £5,000 per annum he can be awarded damages which, if invested in such stocks, will provide him with almost exactly that sum in real terms."

Teenage snipers prompt call for German rifle ban

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

Snipers have prompted a Liverpool MP to call for a ban on the importation of German air rifles. Mr Edward Loyden, Labour MP for Garston, Liverpool, described the purchasing of the high velocity weapons by people aged under 17 as an "extensive problem".

By law, the air rifles should not be used or purchased by anyone under 17. Mr Loyden's remarks came after complaints from local veterinary surgeons concerned by the pain caused to animals by the disintegrating lead and iron pellets fired from the guns.

Mr Loyden said: "I have written to the Home Secretary, pointing out the dangers of these weapons. I am sure the veterinary reports are only the tip of the iceberg.

"People shoot at animals for kicks and it could result in rifles being used in a much more vicious way." He was referring to the shooting of a Liverpool girl aged 18 last week. A pellet entered her back and passed out through her chest.

Mr Loyden said: "There ought to be an immediate stop to the selling of guns pending legislation, which should be amended to stop the guns coming into the possession of young or irresponsible people.

"However, I don't want to affect areas of sport which use guns in a controlled fashion. I don't want to place restrictions on them, as shooting is a popular sport."

A ballistics expert, Mr Derek Baldock, science director of Bernicon Consulting Scientists of Long Eaton, Nottingham, said: "A high velocity air weapon is one whose energy produced at the muzzle exceeds 12lb."

Hanoi ready for Chinese attack in frontier war

From David Watts, Lang Son, Vietnam-China border

The China-Vietnam border mini-war has moved into its second month with new tension on both the military and diplomatic fronts.

As more than a thousand Chinese shells hit the Vietnamese border area the Chinese Ambassador to Hanoi, Mr Qui Lixian, stalked out of a reception at the weekend in protest at Vietnamese complaints about China's "hostile attitude".



Five years after China's short-lived invasion of Vietnam in 1979 the border area of sheer valleys and precarious hills is still tense.

For many miles behind the provincial capital of Lang Son Vietnamese forces are constantly on the alert for a "second lesson" another full-scale response to Vietnamese military activity in Cambodia. It could come any time.

The Vietnamese have deployed the cream of their army, more than half a million men. Their equipment is new. Here and there are missile launchers and anti-aircraft guns pointing northwards towards China. Rows of lorries nestle under camoflage. Anti-aircraft guns at the forward airfield of Kep are manned, but its MiG 21s are out of sight.

Until the week end the Chinese response to the Vietnamese had been carefully measured.

After the Vietnamese took two high points on the Thai-Cambodian border held by the Cambodian resistance the Chinese briefly took two points in northern Vietnam. But despite a rather abrupt end to the fighting at the Thai-Cambodian border the Chinese have pressed on with their shelling of the frontier area.

This may presage a more comprehensive attack. Certainly the Vietnamese were ready for it last month, when border hospitals were cleared ready for the wounded. Since then there appears to have been a sort of phoney war fought largely between opposing artillery batteries.

The Vietnamese refuse to take correspondents right into the forward area because they fear for their safety, so the damage must be inspected at a distance. Nor are they able to give numbers of Chinese casualties. Yet curiously they report on the number of shells which land on their soil in exhausting detail.

The Times, however, was taken to interview one of the injured in the provincial hospital at Lang Son, a young Nung minority farmer hit by Chiense rifle fire last month.

Mr Au Viet Cong was going to visit relatives when the Chinese opened fire without warning. He was hit in the head by the third shot. The Chinese followed up with machine-gun fire and the family fled.

The fact that Mr Au was one of the only three injured treated in the town's hospitals during April has led to some measure of disbelief among foreign missions in Hanoi as to the intensity of the border shelling. The Vietnamese, however, say that since 1979 they are now much better prepared, with extensive border trenches and shelters for the population, and these minimize casualties.



Waiting in line: Cambodian refugees queue for water at Ban Santor Changan camp after fleeing into Thailand from Vietnamese attacks on Ampil.

Cambodian rebels fear Vietnamese genocide

By Simon Scott Plummer

Hanoi has settled 300,000 Vietnamese in Cambodia as part of a drive to exterminate the native people, one of the Cambodian resistance leaders said in London yesterday.

Mr Son Sann, one of the three leaders of the rebel Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, and president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), said that Vietnamese settlers had been given the best land in the south of the country along the Mekong River and around the southern shore of the Tonle Lake, and that the Vietnamese had the sole right to fish in the lake.

He added that the Heng Samrin Government in Phnom Penh had started to tax ethnic Chinese traders in the capital.

Mr Sann said the Vietnamese had trained small suicide commando units of young men whose parents had been killed while the Khmer Rouge ruled the country between 1975 and 1979, and sent them against the resistance groups with the invitation to avenge their parents.

Danish MPs vote for atom-free zone

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen

The Folketing (parliament) yesterday ordered the centre-right government to work towards banning nuclear weapons from Denmark in times of peace, crisis and war, in the context of a Nordic nuclear-free zone recongized by the Soviet Union and the United States.

The motion, passed by 73 votes to six in the 179-seat house, was tabled by the opposition Social Democrats in defiance of the policies of the Conservative-led minority government, which abstained.

The resolution also called for Denmark to press for a resumption of East-West arms reduction talks.

Expressing doubt about the practicality of the setting up a Nordic nuclear-free zone, Mr Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Foreign Minister, said the Government would live with the Bill

Denmark declared in 1956 that it would not allow nuclear weapons to be stationed on its territory in times of peace.

Drought could kill millions of Ethiopians

Adis Ababa (Reuter) – Several million Ethiopians could die as a result of an unprecedented drought, a senior Government official said.

Mr Dawit Wolde Gorgisc, head of Ethiopia's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, said that unless massive international assistance was forthcoming "the majority of the 5.2 million people affected by the worst drought in years could die". Ethiopia's food reserves "could only last for about two months".

Mr Dawit said the drought had spread to previously unaffected areas

The worst-hit regions were Wollo province, with more than 1.7 million people affected, Tigray, with 1.3 million affected and Eritrea, with almost one million victims. Both Tigray and Eritrea are the scene of secessionist revolts which hinder distribution of aid.

A severe drought in the early 1970s killed 200,000 Ethiopians and resulted in the 1974 revolution, which toppled Emperor Haile Selassie and brought the present Soviet-aligned government to power.

All quiet on the eastern front despite tension over arrest of Israelis

From Christopher Walker, Jebel Araby, eastern Lebanon

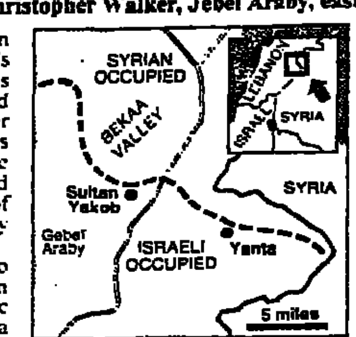
The only shots being fired in anger yesterday in Lebanon's fertile Bekaa valley – where tens of thousands of Syrian and Israeli troops face each other across a ceasefire line at times as narrow as 300 yards – came from local hunters determined to put a cruel end to a flight of stocks gently wheeling their way northwards.

Although a gross affront to any birdlover, it was also a sign that so far the diplomatic tension between Israel and Syria caused by the capture of three Israelis in nothern Lebanon has not yet been reflected on the ground in the area where their proximity poses a constant threat to peace.

As it to prove the point, a reserve captain, with neither flak jacket nor helmet, stood on this frontline hillside and casually pointed down to Syrian positions along the line which has divided the two armies in Lebanon since 1982.

"If there had been any serious escalation I would not be standing here like this," he told a small group of reporters being escorted to the forward positions by an Israeli Army anxious to demonstrate its claim that recent Syrian charges about its aggressive intentions in the Bekaa are false.

A 20-minute drive away, at the Israeli regional headquarters – only 23 miles from the



outskirts of Damascus – Colonel Noah, a senior commander on the eastern front, argued that recent Arab warnings of a massive Israeli military buildup were "disinformation spread because of Syria's internal problem".

The colonel pointed to a large map showing the positions occupied by the estimated 50,000 Syrian combat troops now on Lebanese soil. "the region is quiet because, whatever might be said, the governments on both sides do not want it noisy. From a military point of view, I am convinced that isolated incidents can be kept from spreading."

The colonel said that, because of the recent onset of fine weather after the winter rains both the Israeli and Syrian armies had recently undertaken a seasonal adjustment of their positions.

"What has happened, including the arrival of bulldozers to shore-up defences, is no different from what happened on both sides of the red line this time last year."

Despite the superficial calm and the relaxed appearance of the Israeli frontline troops, the long anti-tank ditches stretching for miles on either side of the zigzagging line which divides the armies was a reminder of the ever-present risk of a flare-up posed by their proximity.

According to the Israelis, the last serious incident in the east of Lebanon took place a month ago, when they shelled Palestinian positions close to the Syrian lines, in retaliation for infiltration by a three-man guerrilla squad.

They have made clear that similar limited action will be taken again if Syria fails to restrain the estimated 2,000 to 4,000 Palestinian fighters now in their midst.

With hopes fading in Jerusalem yesterday about the chances of a diplomatic breakthrough to secure the quick release of the three Israelis now being held in Damascus, officers in the Bakaa valley were anxious to make the point that a sudden military escalation was not expected to result. But one did add the cautionary note that "in Lebanon, anything can happen".

Silent citizens' protest

Lebanese to march for peace

From Our Correspondent Beirut



With nine years of war behind them and a tenth in prospect, a group of Lebanese citizens has decided to take to *the streets in a march for peace.*

Miss Iman Khalifeh, a 29-year-old west Beirut university researcher who is the principal organizer of the demonstration planned for Sunday, says "I hope we will be thousands. We want to make our feelings known. We never had this kind of chance before, really."

The march will be a milestone here because Lebanon has been, to all intents and purposes, deviod of a peace movement. Individual complaints about the brutality of the sectarian battles have not been translated into action since the early months of the civil war, when a few scattered anti-war protest gatherings were held.

The march will coincide with the Labanese "martyrs' day" holiday, which commemorates the 1914 execution of 12 Lebanese who had been campaigning for independence from Ottoman Turkish rule.

Miss Khalifeh says this is coincidental. The idea began with a letter, signed by 49 residents from Christian east and Muslim west Beirut, which she sent to local newspapers.

It is hard to predict what kind of turn-out there will be because many in Beirut fear that the demonstrators could become the target of snipers or of the militiamen still in positions on the streets.

Miss Khalifeh argues that: "We are risking our lives every day – in our homes, in the streets, in our work. So there is nothing new". A researcher at Beirut University's College into the effects of war on children, she says she has never before been involved in either political or social organizing.

The marchers plan to link up at the "Green Line", where rival Christian and Muslim Militia bunkers divide the capital in two. The march will be in silence with the message carried on posters.

● **TEL AVIV (Reuter)** – Some 2,000 Israeli soldiers and Army personnel have been crippled during fighting in the Lebanon in the past two years, the chairman of Israel's disabled soldiers' organization said.

About 400 of these suffered a 50 per cent or more disability, Mr Ya'acov Maoz added.

Palestinian shot dead in Cyprus

A Palestinian, Hanna Mukbel, the Cyprus secretary of the Federation of Arab Journalists and head of the Nicosia-based al Sharq news agency, was shot dead on his way to work in Nicosia yesterday. A woman colleague was injured. The gunman escaped by car.

Rights plea by Pope in Seoul

Seoul (Reuter, AP) – The Pope, beginning a visit to South Korea yesterday urged the authorities to restore all human rights and said he was praying for the Korean peninsula to be reunited.

In his arrival address in Seoul, where he observed his custom and kissed the earth, the Pope referred constantly to "Korea" rather than "South Korea."

He said: "I pray that your beloved fatherland, now tragically divided in two for over a generation, will be reunited in one family, not through confrontation and hostility, but through dialogue, mutual trust and brotherly love."

Broaching the delicate question of political freedom and workers' rights, he said he hoped South Korea's economic progress would lead to "a more human society of true justice and peace, where all life is upheld as sacrosanct . . . and where to govern is to serve, where no one is used as a tool, no one left out and no one downtrodden."

An estimated one million people lined the 12-mile route from the airport to the centre of Seoul as the Pope went by at the start of his four-day visit in a specially adapted white vehicle enclosed in a bullet-proof glass box.

His first engagement was at a shrine beside the wide Han river where 10,000 Korean Catholics were beheaded in the nineteenth century. The Pope sprinkled holy water, burnt incense and said the Lord's Prayer in the Korean language, which he had learnt from a South Korean priest in the Vatican.

At Seoul airport, where the pope was greeted by President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea, he delighted his audience from a country where the majority of people practice Buddhism or Confucianism, by using a saying of Confucius in his first public address to them. "Is it not a joy indeed to have a friend come from afar?"

● **Student clash:** More than 1,000 students clashed with riot police at Sungkyunkwan University, denouncing the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan and calling for democratic reforms. The clash came shortly after the Pope arrived.

Leadng article, page 11





Arctic adventurer: David Hempleman Adams, aged 26, of Bristol walking towards his goal in his attempt to be the first person to walk alone to the magnetic North Pole.

5000 held in Delhi protest over Punjab

Delhi (Reuter) – At least 5,000 supporters of an Indian opposition alliance were arrested in Delhi yesterday during a protest against Mrs Indira Gandhi's handling of the Punjab crisis.

The protesters were led by Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, president of the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Party (BJP), and Mr Charan Singh, a former Prime Minister and head of the People's Party.

The two parties are partners in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the main challenger to Mrs Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) in general elections due in the next eight months.

Mr Vajpayee said that at least 40,000 NDA supporters would descend on Delhi over the next week, defying a ban on meetings and gatherings.

Yesterday's rally was held a few hundred yards from the parliament building in the city centre. The demonstrators shouted slogans against Mrs Gandhi and waved party flags as police herded them into buses.

A senior police officer said they would be held in a football stadium until the authorities decided what action to take.

Mr Vajpayee told a large rally in Delhi on Wednesday that Congress (I) was in league with Pubjam's extremists, and that its policy of appeasement was threatening national unity. He said he had information that a leading Sikh extremist leader had met Mrs Gandhi last March, and challenged the Government to refute his allegation.

At least 200 people have died in the Punjab in sectarian clashes over the past six months, as a militant Hindu backlash has grown against Sikh extremist attacks.

Danube blues: Prince Philip at yesterday's Vienna conference before attacking the Hainburg project. He is flanked by Heinz Sielmann (left) noted nature writer and Dr Emil Distler, environmentalist.

Warsaw says 686 held after Solidarity May Day protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Polish police detained 686 demonstrators involved in May Day Solidarity protests against the Government, the official spokesman announced yesterday.

More than 500 of the protesters had been released. *Most had been fined at special* court hearings held in many cities over the past two days, but 40 of the demonstrators were still being investigated to determine whether criminal charges would be brought.

The information was disclosed hours before fresh protests were planned by the Solidarity underground in Warsaw and other places to mark the anniversary of the liberal 1791 constitution. Large numbers of police were deployed in the centre of Warsaw in the morning and the authorities seemed to expect unrest later in the evening, after Mass.

Despite the detention of almost 700 protesters and sharp preventive measures against several Western reporters, the authorities still maintain that the May Day demonstrations were staged by an "insignificant margin" of Polish society.

Colonel Stanislaw Wrona, director of the Polish prison service, supplemented the information from the government spokesman, *Mr Jerzy Urban*, with an unusual analysis of the status of political prisoners.

Before May Day, the total of political prisoners included 411 under temporary arrest and 61 convicted. Although he deined reports of widespread ill-treatment of political prisoners, he admitted that one Solidarity prisoner on hunger strike, Mr Andrezej Slowik, was being force-fed, his hands and feet held by warders.

Another hunger striker, Mr Jerzy Kropiwnicki, was being artificially fed, but without the use of force, he said.

Political prisoners, unlike common criminals, were allowed to refuse to work, were given normal access to reading material from socialist countries and received food parcels, letters and visits from relatives, he said.

However, inmates of Barczewo prison, near Oisztyn, were behaving "provocatively", staging cell-by-cell hunger strikes, with one prisoner going without food one day and then handing the baton on to the next cell. Mr Slowik and Mr Kropiwnicki, both from Lodz Solidarity, were on longer strikes.

Colonel Wrona said penal service regulations allowed warders to use a number of methods against prisoners who were breaking the rules. These included use of strait-jackets, handcuffs, gas, water, rubber truncheons and solitary confinement.

Paris gas blast

Nanterre (Reuter) – Three people were killed and 15 injured when a gas explosion started a fire which ripped through a four-storey building in this northern suburb of Paris.

Austrians scolded by Duke

Austria would irrevocably damage its international standing in the conservation world if plans for a power station in a Danube nature reserve went ahead, the Duke of Edinburgh said in Vienna yesterday (Richard Bassett writes).

He was speaking to journalists in his capacity as president of the World Wildlife Fund, which last year launched a campaign to preserve Austria's last Danube forest. It is threatened by the Government's plans to construct a power station at Hainburg.

The Duke said he was surprised that in Austria nature reserves were the prerogative of individual provinces and not subject to national law. He said that if a relatively rich country like Austria ignored its conservation responsibilities, one could hardly expect developing nations to look after their nature heritage.

The Duke was due to discuss the issue over lunch with an Austrian minister before setting off to inspect the threatened forest.

Kidnapped Britons 'in good shape'

From Martha de la Cal Lisbon

The 16 British prisoners about to be released by the Unita rebels in Angola are well, according to a released Portuguese prisoner who was with them at the Unita camp near Jamba.

"The English prisoners with Unita were well when I last saw them on April 26 at the camp in Angola," Senhor Joaquim Maria da Silva said. He was one of 66 Portuguese captives who were released by Unita, the guerrilla movement headed by *Dr Jonas Savimbi, and* returned to Portugal on Wednesday.

Senhor de Silva said the British prisoners were being well treated. "The prisoners are separated by nationality, but are not locked up. They live two to four together in thatched huts and sleep on straw mattresses and are free to move around the camp," he said.

He said the prisoners were brought together on special occasions.

The British prisoners were captured in north-east Angola in February at Kafunfo. They covered between 500 and 600 miles on foot before being driven for three days by truck.

According to the Foreign Office the hostages are: Mr Martin Dougherty, of Westminster Road, Toothill, Swindon, Wilts; Mr William Morgan, of Priory Gardens, Usk, Gwent; Mr Neil Ayres, of Seaview Terrace, Hartlepool; Mr Budd Sanders, of Croft Road, Hereford; Mr Hywel Lloyd, whose parents live in Borth, Dyfed; Mr Ken Moffat, of Eign Road, Hereford; Mr Dennis Clawson, of Washdyke Lane, Nettleham, Lincoln; Mr Ian Smythe, of Wolsey Close, Worcester Park, London: Mr Tony Dixon, whose father lives in Brignall Garth, Leeds; Mr Alfred Tasker, of Greencroft, Redhill, Hereford; Mr Dougles Samuel, of Windsor Street, Pentre, Mid-Glamorgan; Mr Tom Murphy, of Croy Road, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire; Mr Graham Popplewell, whose parents live in Wilton Crescent, Upper Shirley, Southampton; Mr Ian Fenton, of Sholl House, Overcliffe Drive, Southbourne, Bournemouth; Mr Robin Kennedy, of Swallow Avenue, Skellingthorpe, Lincoln; and Mr Robert Jones, of Grange Road, Shrewsbury.

Strike call vote by German unions

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The stage was set for one of West Germany's most serious industrial disputes as metal workers in the Stuttgart area voted on their union's call for national strikes over a shorter working week, and a printers' strike left much of the country without newspapers yesterday.

Shorty after 5 am car workers in the giant Mercedes factories near Stuttgart began voting on the call for strikes to enforce the demand for a 35-hour week. The powerful IG Metall union, which is spearheading the campaign, was confident that it would get the necessary 75 per cent support for selective strikes, but the result may not be known until tomorrow.

Some 240,000 workers in 750 engineeering works took part in yesterday's ballot in the North Württemberg-North Baden area. Similar polls will be held in Hesse next week, and in North Rine-Westhphalia, Germany's most heavily industrialized state, at a date still to be set.

If the union fails to get the overwhelming backing it needs, the campaign to cut the working week by five hours to open up more jobs for the unemployed will quickly collapse. If the workers vote in favour, however, strikes could begin in a week.

Meanwhile, the printing workers, whose union is equally committed to a 35-hour week, walked out for an hour on Wednesday evening to demonstrate the effect of a seven-hour day. Many cities were left without newspapers and many papers and the weekly magazines printed in Hamburg were *only able to print half* their normal editions

The Government has repeatedly described the campaign as foolish and liable to increase rather than diminish unemployment. But so far it has not intervened. The campaign has become rather bitter as many metal workers do not support a lengthy and damaging all-out strike over the issue, and the union leadership – is trying to galvanize its more reluctant members into supporting militant action.

Setting sail: The Argonauts of Timothy Severin, the British explorer, setting out from Volos, Greece, to retrace the route of the ancient "Golden Fleece" expedition.

54 Namibia detainees to be freed

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

South Africa announced yesterday that 54 detainees who have been held for the past six years without trial at a prison camp near Mariental in Namibia are to be set free.

The announcement, by Dr Willie van Niekerk, the South African Administrator-General in Namibia, throws new light on the recent decision of Mr Kobie Coetsee, the South African Justice Minister, to ban the hearing by the Windhoek Supreme Court of a petition to secure the release of 37 of the prisoners.

Dr van Nierkerk said the 54 detainees were being let out because an inquiry by a senior army officer had shown that they no longer posed "a threat to law and order". The release of others was under consideration. Officially there are 146 people in the camp.

Nearly all of these, according to South African sources, are members of or have links with the Swapo guerrillas and were captured during a raid on a Swapo headquarters in southern Angola in 1978.

The announcement of the release coincided with reports in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, that a meeting may be held soon in Lusaka, under the chairmanship of President Kaunda of Zambia, between Swapo, Dr van Niekerk and the multi-party conference (MPC), a group of Namibian political parties.

If this meeting takes place, it would be an important breakthrough, marking the first direct negotiations between Swapo *and the MPC parties* – dismissed hitherto by Swapo as South African puppets – and between Swapo and the representative of Pretoria.

MPC sources in Windhoek insisted yesterday that such a meeting was still speculative.

Tate to be given Rothko paintings

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The Tate Gallery in London is to be given a number of paintings by the important American twentieth century artist, Mark Rothko, as part of a multimillion pound distribution of about 1,000 of his works at present held by the Mark Rothko Foundation.

Mr Donald Blinken, the foundation's president, announced yesterday that its collection of Rothko's works would be dispersed among 19 American and overseas museums. The core of the collection, amounting to 285 paintings, will go to the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

The Tate, which already has a large collection of Rothko's work, will receive between one and 15 paintings. Mr Michael Compton, a senior official from the Tate, is due in the US next week to help with the selection process.

The announcement was made at the opening of a big exhibition of Rothko's paintings at the National Gallery in Washington. The Tate is due to hold a Rothko retrospective in early 1986 which will include the new paintings it will be given by the foundation.

Rothko died in 1970 and the foundation, which was originally set up to administer his estate, was embroiled in a controversy which shook the art world in the US and Europe.

In 1976 a New York judge ruled that three executors of the Rothko estate had acted in a conflict of interest and negligently sold 789 of the artists paintings for much less than their true value. Mr Blinken was brought in as president of a newly-constituted board of directors of the foundation.

He said yesterday that the foundation had decided it could best serve Rothko and the public by distributing its collection rather than holding on to it itself.

Coup plotters 'executed'

Yaoundé (AFP) – Thirty-five people were executed for their part in the abortive coup against President Apul Biya on April 6, according to sources here. Their identity was not known.

The executions took place at dawn on *Tuesday at Mbalmayo*, 30 miles south of here. They followed a trial which started last Friday and ended on Monday. Th Government refused to acknowledge that a trial was taking place.

World record in mine accidents

Johannesburg – Last year 831 people died in South Africa's mines, 230 more than in 1982, according to the annual report of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs. Most of the deaths occurred in gold and coal mines (Michael Hornsby writes).

The safety record at South African mines has improved in recent years, but the accident rate is thought to be the highest in the world.

Joe Cocker in Vienna court

Vienna (AP) – Joe Cocker, the rock singer, and his manager, Martin Biallas, were taken to court here after a night in jail as the Austrian authorities investigated a complaint that the singer accepted payment for a rock concert but failed to show up. Organizers of the May Day concert claim they lost about £15,000 because of Cocker's non-appearance.

House collapse

Cairo (AP) – At least 20 people were killed and more than two dozen injured when an old four-storey house collapsed in a crowded residential district, police said.

Correction

Right-of-way rules on French roads, mention in a report from Paris on May 1, are 180 years old, not 18.

Jackson in Farrakhan flop

From Christopher Thomas Dallas

The Rev Jesse Jackson was taken his first serious public pasting over the Louis Farrakhan affair. They call it the Farrakhan Flap. He floundered badly in a televison debate, appealing weekly and in vain to "forgive and move on."

His attackers were Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart, the two other contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination. It was the worst moment for the Baptist preacher in four national television debates. Some say the Farrakhan affair is blighting his campaign to be acknowledged as the leader of America's blacks, a post held vacant since the death of Martin Luther King.

Mr Farrakhan is black. So is Mr Milton Coleman, a reporter on the *Washington Post*, whose life he allegedly threatened for writing about Mr Jackson's predilection for referring to "Hymies" and Hymietown" (New York).

"I dissociate myself from the message but not from the messenger." Mr Jackson declared. "There is a distinct difference. You see."

If there is, Mr Mondale could not see it. He called Mr Farrakhan's alleged remarks poison. "I'm a preacher's kid. I believe in redemption," he said. "But boy, that was going awful far."

Mr Farrakhan is leader of a group called the Nation of Islam. Mr Jackson hotly defended him, saying that there must be the moral capacity to reach out, to make room, to forgive. He claimed that Mr Farrakhan's remarks needed to be taken in context and seen as an "apocalyptic message" in Islamic style.

His most bungled response was to attack Mr Mondale, who is opposed to capital punishment, for appearing to "have no problem defending the rights of murderers" but unable the forgive an exaggerated remark. The audience winced at that.

The debate, the last in a series organized in different states by the League of Women Voters, was the high spot of campaigning for the Texas caucuses

Delors gives warning of more austerity to come

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French Government's programme of economic austerity, introduced in March, 1983, and due to run until the end of 1984, is to be extended at least until the end of 1985 and made even tougher, M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, indicated during a debate in the National Assembly.

"In 1985, alas, the budget will be of a rigour that will be without comparison to that of 1984", M Delors told deputies in Wednesday night's debate on a Bill to aid new industries,

The increased rigour would be required largely because of President Mitterrand's promise to reduce taxes and levies by one percentage point next year from the present 45 per cent of gross domestic products he explained. That will entail the loss of some 40bn francs (£3.5bn).

Vigorously rejecting calls from the Communists and the left-wing Cérès faction of the Socialist Party for an immediate boost to the economy to curb the rise in unemployment, M Delors said that a boost would only lead to higher imports, an increased foreign debt, and aggravation of the crisis.

● **EEC report:** The EEC's Economic and Social Committee described the economic situation in France as "encouraging" in a report published in Paris yesterday.

● **Pay increase:** The Cabinet announced a 3.4 per cent increase in the national minimum wage yesterday, 1 per cent more than was required to compensate for inflation since the last increase.

Elections chief confident about outcome of voting in El Salvador

From John Carlin, San Salvador

The president of El Salvador's Central Elections Council Dr Armando Rodriguez, expects the losing candidate in Sunday's run-off presidential election to cry fraud and call for a nullification of the vote.

"But we will not accept such a position", he said flatly. "This time things are organized in such a way that the possibilities of fraud are much less."

The voting process in the first round of elections on March 25 was astonishingly chaotic, despite many months and millions of American dollars of painstaking preparation to ensure this latest attempt at democracy in El Salvador would get off to a model start.

"If the five members of the CCE had been Japanese" goes a favourite witticism doing the rounds in El Salvador. "They would have taken the honourable way out".

This they failed to do, but instead found themselves the targets of the Secret Anti-Communist Army, one of El Salvador's more notorious death squads, pledged to avenge the indignity of the election day chaos, relayed all over the world by reporters.

Outside Dr Rodriguez's house there are constantly two heavily armed guards in plain clothes, and two policemen with machine guns.

"We were too innocent the first time around. We thought that the political parties would be sincere and honest, like us", Dr Rodriguez said in an interview last weekend.

"Both the main parties cheated. Both were to blame for the way the elections turned out", he claimed, referring to the Arena and Christian Democrat parties of Sunday's rivals, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson and Señor Napoleón Duarte.

About 142,000 ballots cast had to be declared invalid because it was found that party members had filled them in fraudulently, according to Dr Rodriguez, but an independent American accounting firm which watched over the first-round election maintained this week that most of those 142,000 voters had in fact been spoiled.

Many ballot boxes disappeared. "A lorry with 40 ballot boxes aboard disappeared the day before the polling. Not even the lorry driver has been heard of since", Dr Rodriguez said.

This time the two parties involved will have no part in the distribution of the balloting material, which, Dr Rodriguez is convinced, was the reason for all the disruption last time.

He might have added that an electoral registration list prepared with apparent meticulousness by the CCE before the first round was found to have at least 92,000 errors in it. These, Dr Rodriguez said, had now been corrected.

War and peace: A Salvadorean soldier left holding the baby during a patrol

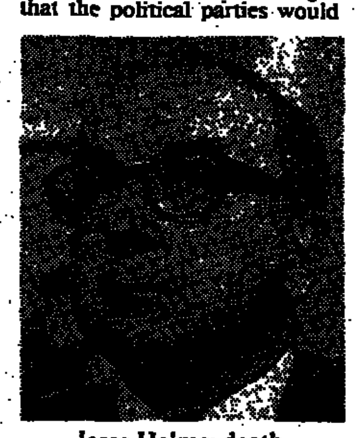
Helms asks Reagan to recall envoy

From Our Correspondent
San Salvador

Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's vice-presidential running-mate in Sunday's election read a letter to reporters on Wednesday, written by US Senator Jesse Helms to President Reagan, which asks for the immediate resignation of the American Ambassador to El Salvador.

Señor Hugo Barrera of the Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) read out, with obvious relish, a Spanish translation of the letter in which Ambassador Thomas Pickering is accused of interfering with the electoral process to the benefit of the moderate candidate, Señor José Napoleón Duarte.

Senator Helms, a Republican from North Carolina, accused Mr Pickering, outrageously, of being "a leader of the death squads".



Jesse Helms: death squad claims

It is clear that a victory for Major D'Aubuisson – a man accused, a little more plausibly, of being a death squad leader – in Sunday's elections would present grave problems for American foreign policy in El Salvador.

After reading the letter, Señor Barrera astonishingly claimed that an American official assisting in the technical details of the Salvadorean election had issued death threats against Arena party members.

Fishing boat sunk

Managua says US is still mining coast

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Nicaragua has accused the United States of continuing to mine its coast, following the sinking of a fishing boat at the country's main port of Corinto.

In a strongly worded protest note, the Sandinasta Government accused Washington of carrying on with its "criminal action" despite international condemnation of the mining, deep opposition to it in the US Congress and the case to test its legality before International Court of Justice in the Hague.

The fishing boat sank without loss of life as it put to sea on Wednesday morning, becoming the third Nicaraguan vessel to be lost since mines were first planted, ostensibly by rebel groups, in January. Ten foreign vessels have also been badly damaged by mines, though the last incident was a month ago.

Since then the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) responding to harsh congressional criticism of its admitted role in the operation, said it had abandoned this strategy. Nicaraguan rebel troops backed by CIA funds which are being withheld by an increasingly hostile Congress, said they, too, had suspended mining attacks for the time being.

A senior Foreign Ministry spokesman in Managua said that, while there is no way of being absolutely certain that the latest explosion was not caused by a mine planted some weeks ago, there was strong evidence to suggest it was the result of a fresh attack.

He said that high speed Piranha assault craft launched from a CIA "mother ship" lying off the Nicaraguan coast attacked Corinto on Monday. US intelligence sources in Washington and rebels in Honduras have confirmed the existence of such a ship and that the mining operation has been conducted from it.

The Nicaraguan Government in its protest note demanded "an immediate and definitive end to these criminal actions which affect the basic principles of international law contained in the United Nations Charter, and which continue to place international maritime traffic in danger at a particularly difficult time for the region".

The note said the region's difficulties were characterized by the "escalation of the aggressive US military presence in the area", including the recent arrival of two American warships in the strategic Gulf of Fonseca.

A destroyer and frigate of the US Navy have joined Salvadorean and Honduran coastguard patrols in search of arms shipments which the Reagan administration has repeatedly accused the Sandinistas of smuggling across the gulf to the rebels in El Salvador. But no evidence has yet been produced.

UK pushes Indian arms sales

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

A high-powered British sales team is in India on an armaments sales drive which could have important benefits for Britain's balance of payments and, with the technology transfers implicit in such sales, for Indian industry as well.

The team is led by Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister for Defence Procurement, who said yesterday that the two countries were close to an agreement on a "general memorandum of understanding" about the extent of Government support for arms sales to the Indian forces by British companies.

"We have got to the point where we have a reasonable agreement on texts", Mr Pattie said. "We are hoping to sign sometime this year."

According to British sources, agreement is close on an Indian purchase of a combat engineer tractor, an important battlefield construction and clearance vehicle. The price of each tractor is around £1m and the Indian order is expected to be for 15 immediately.

The British are also helping to get the order for a towed field gun. The belief is that the Indians have already made a decision in favour of a 155mm gun, which would effectively rule out any supply from the Soviet Union.

Briton guilty of California woman's killing

Pasadena, California (Reuter) – A 21-year-old British man, David Carter, faces the gas chamber or life imprisonment without parole after being convicted of what a prosecutor decribed as the grotesque and horrendous murder of a California housewife.

Carter, wearing a blazer and slacks, showed no emotion as a jury of six men and six women found him guilty last night of the murder of Mrs Gloria Black, aged 51. The trial lasted six weeks.

The prosecution alleged that Mrs Black was killed while being forcibly sodomized and that she was sexually assaulted with "a foreign object". Carter was found not guilty of rape.

The jury that convicted Carter will decide his sentence on May 14. Under California law, because there were "special circumstances" involved in the killing, the jury has two options, death or life imprisonment without parole.

"Special circumstances" is a legal term which on a murder charge, allows the prosecution to demand the death penalty. In this case the special circumstances cited included breaking into a house and carrying a deadly weapon, a knife.

If sentenced to death, Carter, who came originally from Buxton, Derbyshire, would join 148 men on "death row" in San Quentin prison.

Protection for Indian women

City steps in with Bill to stop the Eve-teasers

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Delhi's Metropolitan Council this week passed a Bill, and sent it to Parliament for endorsement, aimed against the specifically Indian crime of Eve-teasing.

Women on the London tube, the New York subway or Tokyo's crowded commuter trains may all risk the hazard of indecent approaches from male travellers, but Indian women can be subjected to particularly blatant and offensive molesting, and they have coined a phrase for it.

The new Bill – the Delhi Prohibition of Eve-teasing Bill – deems that "when a man by words either spoken or written, or by signs and/or by visible representation, or by gesture, does any act in a public place, or signs recites or utters any indecent words or song or ballad in any public place to the annoyance of any woman", he is guilty of Eve-teasing.

That seems comprehensive enough, and for greater effect the Delhi Council has made the crime a non-bailable offence, which means the teaser is held in jail until his summary trial. The summary trial means that the offended woman will not have to undergo the harrassment of repeated court appearances.

A minimum punishment is laid down of seven days' imprisonment and a maximum of 15 days with a fine for a first conviction.

For the victims of Eve-teasing the sexual harassment they have to undergo includes wolf whistles, blowing kisses, passing lecherous remarks, stroking the hair, pinching the bottom or fondling the breast, and goes up to spitting, slapping or even more violent treatment.

The worst place for it is on the buses of Delhi's overworked Transport Corporation. According to one women: "The buses are moving dens where crime thrives, both openly and blatantly." And many women find travelling on the crowded vehicles a constant annoyance.

At Holi, the spring holiday in the middle of March, Eve-teasing reaches a ritual height.

"None of these rules ever does any good," said a weary young Delhi woman. "I was on a bus yesterday and some hand just grabbed my breast. What can you do? There are 20 people looking at you. The driver won't go to the police station. If he did he'd be lynched by the other passengers wanting to get to their offices."

She added that the problem seemed only to exist in Delhi. In Bombay or down south in her experience the practice did not exist, although the crowds were just as dense.

"The new law will be all very well," she said. "But who will enforce it?"

SPECTRUM

Foreigners have always beaten a path to the Moscow door of dissident Roy Medvedev. But suddenly a police guard at that door is turning visitors away and an observation post is watching Medvedev's every move. **Richard Owen** talks to him about the change

Door closes on the last dissident

Moscow
Whenever Roy Medvedev leaves his Moscow flat these days he has to negotiate his way past three hefty policemen sitting bottom to bottom on the cold stone staircase outside his door. He greets them affably, and they usually reply in kind. There is no need to follow him down the stairs, since his every movement is watched from a special observation post in the block of flats opposite.

Medvedev is even aware of how the KGB describe him as he leaves the building, since he and his family can pick up the police radio transmissions. "The subject is wearing blue trousers and carrying a briefcase and a plastic bag", the disembodied voice says before Medvedev climbs into a car or heads for the bus and Metro, shadowed by his faithful minders.

Until February 23 this year, Medvedev was almost certainly the most visited Soviet dissident in Moscow. A self-professed Marxist historian of calm, sober and well-informed views, he was able to offer valuable insights into the workings of the Soviet system, using his detailed knowledge of party history to evaluate what is now going on in the Politburo, and what might happen next.

Sceptics said he was protected by Yuri Andropov and was fed disinformation by the KGB who knew perfectly well that he was regarded as an oracle by many foreigners desperate for information in a system of paranoid secrecy. Journalists and senior diplomats still beat a path to his door, making the journey out to the distant suburb on the Leningrad highway, to take Medvedev to a restaurant – observed from the next table – or to one of the foreigners' compounds, which are guarded by police.

Thanks to telephone bugging and surveillance, the KGB is perfectly aware of whom he sees, where he goes and what he says. The object of the KGB exercise, it seems, is to prevent visitors seeing Medvedev in his flat, not to prevent him from leaving it. That, after all, would be house arrest, which would arouse an international outcry of a kind the new Chernenko leadership could do without.

The Kremlin has used similar tactics against Elena Bonner, the wife of the dissident physicist Dr Andrei Sakharov, who is cut off from foreign correspondents by police whenever she visits Moscow from their place of exile in Gorky, several hundred miles away. The authorities have evidently decided they can afford to risk appearing repressive, or simply silly, in the eyes of world opinion by restricting visitors to the few remaining senior dissidents.

Medvedev lives in a tall, uninspiring block of flats in a nondescript housing estate on the outskirts of Moscow, rather than in one of the older, more elegant, blocks in the city centre where officially approved intellectuals can expect to be housed (and indeed where even Dr Sakharov still has a flat, thanks to his status as an academician, although he cannot use it. Some of the greatly diminished band of Moscow dissidents regard Medvedev with suspicion, and in the past have suggested that he works directly or indirectly for the KGB. But like most enclosed worlds, Moscow dissident circles are notorious for their bitchiness, and Medvedev certainly enjoys none of the privileges that a Kremlin stooge might expect.

Now nearly 60, Roy Alexandrovich is the twin brother of Zhores Medvedev, the dissident scientist who lives in London and works at the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill. The brothers work closely together even when separated, and Roy has either contributed to, or jointly written, their books on Krushchev, Andropov and Soviet science.

But Roy enjoys a reputation in his own right as the author of several well-balanced, perceptive and well-researched books on Soviet history, including his monumental study of Stalinism *Let History Judge* and other seminal works such as *On Socialist Democracy* and *An End to Silence.* He writes them in a cramped study in his tower block, a room with barely enough space for his typewriter, the glass-fronted bookcases containing his own works, and a couch for visitors.

He has lived by publication abroad since he was sacked from his job as senior researcher and head of department at the Soviet Academy of Pedagogical Sciences in the early 1970s. He has been harassed, persecuted and warned, but not – so far – arrested, tried or exiled – the fate most of his fellow dissidents suffered in the late 1970s, when Andropov, then head of the KGB, launched his remarkably successful campaign to neutralize and disperse the dissident movement.



Roy Medvedev: "Solzhenitsyn is in Vermont, Sakharov in Gorky, most of the others are silent. There is only me"

Roy Medvedev is the sole surviving member of the band of leading dissidents that dominated the Moscow scene in the late 1960s and '70s. He wryly recalls that when President Nixon came to Moscow the KGB sealed off the homes of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Dr Andrei Sakharov and Roy Medvedev, in case of unspecified trouble. "Solzhenitsyn is in Vermont, Sakharov is in Gorky, and most of the others are prison or are silent, there is only me", Medvedev says.

His troubles really started in January 1983, when Andropov – supposedly his protector – was still alive. Out of the blue Medvedev received a summons to the Moscow prosecutors office, where, in the presence of KGB officers, he was warned to stop publishing "anti-Soviet" articles and books abroad. He asked his interrogators to specify anything he had written or said which could be construed as anti-Soviet.

When they failed to do so he said he would carry on writing and researching as before. (His most recent publication in Britain was a biography of Nikita Khrushchev, who is now a non-person in the Soviet Union, but whose fascinating career Medvedev has done more to illuminate than any other Russian scholar, either inside or outside the Sovet Union.)

The prosecutor also warned him to stop seeing foreign diplomats and journalists since some of them were "dubious characters and spies". Medvedev replied that he would receive anyone who asked to see him, and that it was the job of the authorities, not his, to decide who should be allowed into Russia and who should be kept out because of "dubious" activities.

The warning was something of a puzzle, since it was not followed up at the time by any further action. Possibly the authorities wanted to gauge western reaction to a deliberate act of harassment against a man who enjoys a high reputation in the West, not least in left-wing circles. Many of his articles appear in western socialist publications.

It is also possible that hardline ideologists, backed by Chernenko, were irritated by the fact that Medvedev seemed able to express unorthodox opinions with impunity, and wield influence abroad. In any event, barely a week after Andropov had died and Chernenko succeeded him as party leader, the police suddenly materialized on Medvedev's doorstep.

There was no warning, no official announcement, and no explanation of why this action had been taken, or how long it was likely to last. At first, his uninvited guests were plain-clothes agents from the KGB, but fairly soon – possibly when the KGB became bored with their rather fruitless vigil – they were replaced by ordinary policemen, few of whom had the faintest idea who it was they were guarding.

"They knew I was a writer", Medvedev says with a gentle smile, "but that was about all. After a while some of them started asking my neighbours about me, and one of the policemen somehow got the idea that I was a writer of detective fiction. In fact, he asked me if I could lend him a detective novel to read while he was sitting on my staircase doing night duty. I lent him one from my collection, and he returned it politely the next day without a word. He has not asked again".

Medvedev's neighbours are on the whole bewildered by the latest turn of events and are not sure what to make of it. They have of course always been aware that there were "strange goings-on" in the writer's flat at the top of the building, but some were not sure why a man who sat typing all day should have a constant stream of visitors in expensive foreign cars. The appearance of the police guards and the KGB observation post have increased the neighbourhood's bewilderment. Is Medvedev perhaps a dangerous criminal? Possibly: but on the other hand he seems to be able to come and go at will, so perhaps he is in fact a most important person who has been granted government protection. On the whole, Medvedev says, the neighbours keep their distance, but are friendly and even sympathetic.

Perhaps the most irritating aspect of the situation to Medvedev is that the policemen on the stairs block the way not only to foreigners but also to the pool of young Russian translators and research assistants on whom he relies for his work. Technically, of course, preventing one Soviet citizen from visiting another is an offence even under Soviet law, and both Medvedev and his assistants could lodge a complaint. But that, he thinks, is precisely what the authorities want. Once he starts complaining he can be publicly branded as a "troublemaker". He prefers to carry on working as best he can, in the hope that the police – or whoever put them there – will eventually tire of their pointless assignment.

"It really is rather absurd, don't you think"? he says quietly, looking across the table for confirmation. "Three grown men sitting reading detective novels outside by flat while I work inside from 8am to 11pm. I really think they ought to do something useful as well."

There are lighter moments, or at least incidents which amuse Medvedev himself. At one point, walking down a Moscow street, he stopped short, turned on his heel and confronted the agent he knew was following him. "Look", he said, "I am rather tired and I've had enough of this. Why don't we go home?" "I am at home", the man mumbled, and walked away pretending he had nothing to do with Medvedev at all.

Medvedev's hope is that the vigil will only last until the summer, when (like most Russians) he leaves Moscow for the countryside, to rest at a dacha. But, despite his gentle irony, self-depreciation and defiant optimism, the strain of being Russia's only surviving important dissident is beginning to show in his crumpled face and his rather slow, stooping walk.

He will not give in, "because if I said: All right, I will not meet foreigners I will not write articles, I will just sit at home and write books which will never be published, they would consider that a total victory. There is no concept of dialogue or compromise in our country. Either you make no concessions of any kind, or you give in completely. And I will not give in."

moreover... Miles Kington

Inaction in Europe

Recent TV series have ignited interest in India and China, and now Channel 4 is starting a new one on Africa. The only place that nobody ever seems to make spectacular programmes about is:

EUROPE:

A great new portrait of this age-old continent, from *Moreover Productions.*

Opening Shot. In the Black Forest, Germany. The presenter appears from behind a tree.

Presenter: The inhabitants of Europe are known as Europeans, yet they vary tremendously. Some live on lonely cliffs like these, some in big cities.

Cut to a busy Parisian street. The presenter steps out of a new space-age loo to the street.

Presenter: It is now believed that over 90 per cent of all Europeans live in big cities like this. But it was not always thus.

Presenter is run over by a French driver who does not stop. Cut to a huge forest in Finland. A new presenter steps from behind a tree and looks cautiously both ways before he addresses the camera.

Presenter: Remote, almost uninhabited, this Finnish forest plays a very real part in the life of the city. For these trees are turned into... paper.

Shot of tree felling. Cut to lorry being loaded. Mix to romantic footage of lorries pounding through the night. Cut ot front page of The Sun: "You're a nutter, Gaddafi!" The presenter lowers it.

Presenter: But what are they really like, these warlike but intelligent Europeans? Some of them lead a totally urban life.

Cut to typical English family, who have just finished high tea.

Dad: Where you going to, son?

Son: Down the disco.

Dad: The disco? That's the third time this evening! What for?

Son: Doss around a bit, see if there's any talent.

Cut to presenter, in a small Spanish village.

Presenter: Yet some Europeans retain their age-old customs.

Cut to little Spanish family. They speak in Spanish. There are sub-titles.

Where are you going, to my son?

To the traditional fishermen's singing and dancing.

That is good, my son. What for?

Doss around a bit. See if there's any talent.

Cut to presenter in St Paul's Rome.

Presenter: The Europeans have left behind many marvellous monuments, though their purpose is doubtful, and many have been attacked by thieves and grave robbers.

Cut to the door of a small English church on which is a notice reading: "Because of recent vandalism, this church is locked. Keys may be obtained from the vicar. Entry is free but there is an admission charge of £5." The presenter walks into shot.

Presenter: This is St Suspicion's, Nether Flagstone. Who was St Suspicion? Well, it's now believed he may have come from Thrace, near modern Yugoslavia.

Cut to border of modern Yugoslavia, where presenter is leaning on a barbed wire fence. There is shouting in the background.

Presenter: Europe is at peace, yet everywhere there are borders. Europe was more united 2,000 years ago under the Romans than it is now. What were they like, these Romans? Next week, we'll be looking for the answer in a small chapel in Heligoland.

The shouting increases and shots ring out. The presenter falls, riddled with bullets. Cut to Dutch windmill by canal. Credits: "The makers of Europe would like to thank all the museums and libraries in the world. Thanks."

Not the only British success in the world

"...It's amazing – I read somewhere that he earns £800 a minute and he's only 30 something..." Thus began *Private Eye*'s Great Bores of Today on Andrew Lloyd Webber. Geoffrey Wansell, in a profile in the *Sunday Telegraph* magazine, was in much the same mood. "Not even Cole Porter enjoyed so much success so young", he gushed, with what I suspect was unconscious irony. Cole Porter was the only major American songwriter who did not get going until his forties. Otherwise, Richard Rodgers had his first song in a Broadway show at the age of 16; Dorothy Fields wrote a three-million seller at 22; and, by the time of his death at only 38, George Gershwin had written dozens of popular standards plus *Porgy and Bess* and *An American In Paris*, not to mention "Rhapsody in Blue".

Probably Andrew Lloyd Webber does not pay much attention to the adulation of the trendies, perhaps remembering how quickly they consigned Lionel Bart, the West End whizz-kid of the 1960s to the dustbin of history. Mr Lloyd Webber is a successful theatre songwriter, and deserves a more considered appreciation than the excesses of some recent articles. However, I would like to correct just two misconceptions related to him.

The first is that he is the only Englishman "to beat Broadway at its own game" and enjoy success in New York. There is currently in the West End a revival of the 1929 show *Mr Cinders*, with music by Vivian Ellis. Its lyricist, Clifford Grey, was a Birmingham songwriter who had a string of Broadway hits a half-century before *Evita* hit town, and whose partners included George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Sigmund Romberg and Vincent Youmans.

Grey had a gift for writing simple, sentimental lyrics that were never too cloying. His first big hit, "If You Were the Only Girl in the World" (1916), is an obvious example.

In 1919, he went to New York and enjoyed a decade of success, with seven shows on Broadway in 1925 alone. *Sally* (1921) was the fourth longest-running musical of the 1920s, and *Hit the Deck* (1927) one of the most influential. He also wrote for Hollywood's early talkies, beginning with Lubitsch's *Love Parade* (1929), which Theodore Huff called "the first truly cinematic screen musical".

The second misconception arises from the first, and was referred to by Bernard Levin in his excellent "obituary" of the frightful *Jean Seberg*, when he mentioned "the modern musical comedy, that wholly indigenous American art-form". Most people seem to follow this line of thinking, that the British have an inbuilt inferiority where the musical is concerned, which is why the success of *Evita* and *Cats* must appear all the more remarkable.

However, that "wholly indigenous American art-form was more or less invented by a team of two Englishmen and one highly Anglophile American. At least one of the names, P. G. Wodehouse, should be familiar to Lloyd Webber fans because a few years ago Lloyd Webber based his musical *Jeeves* on the Wodehouse character. The other Englishman was Guy Bolton and the American was Jerome Kern. The series of shows by the partnership at Broadway's Princess Theatre from 1915 onwards changed the course of American musical theatre.

Bolton's light, witty books, Wodehouse's lyrics and Kern's music represented a complete break from the pseudo-European operettas and revues that had previously dominated New York. They were the first true "musical-comedies".

If only they had created their Princess shows in London, the story of the British musical might have been very different. As it is, the two Englishmen remain the proverbial prophets without honour in the West End. The creator of Jeeves and Wooster is hardly recognized as the writer of "Bill" (from *Showboat* or "Till the Clouds Roll By". Of his biographers, only Benny Green has done justice to his songwriting career.

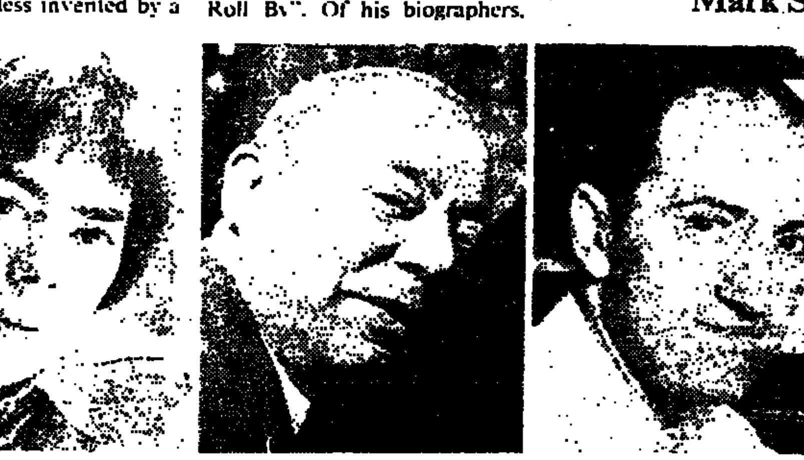
On his eightieth birthday, Wodehouse received a telegram from Richard Rodgers: "On this happy day I wish to thank you on behalf of Larry Hart, Oscar Hammerstein and myself for all you taught us through the years." The British were on Broadway long before Andrew Lloyd Webber and it's not Wodehouse's fault that the Americans took more notice of what he was doing than his compatriots did.

Plum's first lyric, "Put Me In My Little Cell", was a novelty song for a 1904 London show called *Sergeant Brue*:

There are pleasant little spots
my heart is fixed on,
Down at Parkhurst or at
Portland on the sea,
And some put up at Holloway
and Brixton,
But Pentonville is good enough
for me.

It may sound a little too cute for some tastes but it is better than anything from *Jean Seberg*.

Mark Steyn



Andrew Lloyd Webber, Richard Rodgers and George Gershwin: Success came young for them all

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 333)

ACROSS
1 Wholesale stock dealer (6)
5 Double marriage (6)
8 Be in debt to (3)
9 FBI men (6)
10 Arm bracelet (6)
11 Move gradually (4)
12 Hypocritical (3,5)
14 Moon goddess (6)
17 Formal argument (6)
19 Firewood (8)
22 Inside info (4)
24 Horses, feet (6)
25 Encourage (6)
26 3000-300 megahertz (1,1,1)
27 Cattle fly (6)
28 Cowardly (6)

DOWN
2 Body part (5)
3 Wailing spirit [illegible]
4 Horseshow medal (7)
5 Happy party (5)
6 Third Greek letter (5)
7 Life jacket (3,4)
13 Enemy [illegible]
15 Atrocious [illegible]
16 Babylon earth god (3)
17 Make honourable (7)
18 Confuse (7)
21 Give out [illegible]
23 Courtyard (5)

SOLUTION TO No 332
ACROSS: 8 Big bang theory 9 One 10 B[illegible] 11 Basic 13 Pastern 16 Y fronts 19 [illegible] 22 Ungallant 24 Ups 25 H Rider Haggard
DOWN: 1 Absorb 2 Egress 3 Barbican 4 Eggclip 5 Thus 6 Forage 7 Wyvern 12 ACF 14 Strategy 15 Roe 16 Youths 17 Regain 18 Swathe 20 Frugal 21 Reside 23 Lied

FRIDAY PAGE

Madeleine Kingsley reports on a sport for the privileged few

Pukka chukka girls

An ancient Persian epic poem, the *Shahnamah*, tells how the king "with happy heart" watched polo played by 70 veiled ladies of his court. Red pottery figures surviving from the T'ang dynasty depict Chinese women riders in mid-chukka. But what has happened to our honourable tradition of stick-and-ball? As the season's first matches begin at Smith's Lawn in Windsor Great Park, home of the Guards Polo Club, the modern fields is strikingly bereft of women riders.

Of the 500 serious and regular members of the country's main clubs – the Guards, Cowdray Park, Cirencester and Ham – only five or six are women.

But you can count any number of girl grooms meticulously preparing ponies for this extremely tough, socially esoteric and privileged sport. The game is so taxing on the horses that players change mounts at least once – more if possible – during a half-hour match. One groom said: "Afterwards, the gentlemen go off to the pavilion for their iced Pimms. We buy our crisps and coke from a caravan kiosk, *then take our* ponies back to the yard. We rub them down and rug them up. Often we're still cleaning tack at 8.30pm.

VICTORIA GRACE and her three sisters are among the few women who play polo. Victoria, aged 17, already has a handicap of 0. She has been riding since she was two years old, and at five went on her first all-day hunt, receiving the fox's brush.

Her progression to polo playing was a natural one. Her father, Peter Grace, a New Zealander, runs Britains's largest commercial polo school, the Rangitiki, where lessons start from £50. Lady pupils at the school have included at least two secretaries, a school teacher and a group of convent schoolgirls. "Victoria's handicap is extremely goodfor a girld her age," says her pround father, "She could jolly well make it by the end of the season."

Victoria is games captain of her convent school The Maris at Sunninghill, Berks, and is studying for A-levels. She hopes to take her Cambridge entrance exams and read veterinary medicine. Slightly shy, slim and fashion conscious, Victoria confounds the expectation that polo women are a hearty breed with more thigh muscle than sense.

She plays at No 1 in the Rangitiki team which won last year's Social Cup and last year's Jaipur Trophy. Her mother, Elizabeth Grace, said: "It was unusual and *rather* nice for 'Tor' to have received her award from another woman, the Maharanee of Jaipur. We had a divine celebration – in fact polo supplies endless excuses for super parties."

In August, Victoria will captian a British Pony Club girls' team on a tour of the United States. But she will miss *the start of this season* at home, having promised not to ride until her exams finish in June.

"The last time I rode seriously was at Christmas, when Daddy took me on holiday to Spain. Holiday! We tried out 50 polo ponies for possible purchase in three days.

"Polo's obviously not expensive for me – I'm lucky to have it on the doorstep. I can ride whatever horse is going well for me. I came off a couple of seasons ago and chipped a shoulder bone, but I haven't had any serious accidents. I don't think you'd play if you were at all timid because the thrill of the game is its speed.

But Victoria ia always careful and has never been allowed to pick up bad habits. "Daddy always instilled in us that the rules are for safety and the game is only dangerous if you foul." "We've certainly no special club facilities, no showers of our own. After a match you just spray on masses of Givenchy and hope for the best."



Victoria: 'After a match you just spray on masses of Givenchy and hope for the best'

High Goals and handicaps

The word polo derives from the Tibetan word *pulu*, a ball.

A polo match is divided *into sections, called chukkas*, each lasting 7½ minutes.

The word chukka comes from the Farsi *chugan*, meaning small ball.

There are four players in a team, number three being the key or "pivot" player.

Each player has a handicap, established seasonally by the sport's governing body – the Hurlingham Polo Association – and ranging from –2 to 10. Unlike golf, *the handicap increases with* the player's skill.

Match play is at three levels, depending on he aggregate handicap of the team. Low Goal Polo represents a combined handicap of 4-8, Medium Goal 9-15 and High Goal 17-22. Low Goal matches comprise four chukkas, Medium Goal five and High Goal six.

A horse may travel as *much as eight miles in two* chukkas and gallop at a speed of 30–40 miles an hour.

A first class polo pony could cost £5,000 and upwards of £50 a week in livery.

Annual club membership of the Guards Polo Club is £750, although membership of small local clubs may be as little as £40.

RENATA COLEMAN is a German-born divorcee of 37, whose team, *La Vicuna*, once defeated a side including Prince Charles 12½-3. Mrs Coleman is a graduate of the LSE who came to the game late – only 10 years ago. She has a pretty country house in Binfield, Berkshire, a flat in Eaton Square and condominium in *Palm Beach. Her* teenage son is at Gordonstoun and her daughter attends Heathfield.

At one time she kept a team of 30 horses near Cowdrey Park, but this season she has "nothing to play on", having flown her five remaining mounts to Palm Beach where she has great hopes of putting together a crack High Goal team. She had a handicap of 1, but injury forced it back.

"*To be taken seriously* as a woman, I believe you've simply got to have your own team", she said. "I'd like to make up a team including top internationals. But to attract their game, provide them with mounts and accomdation for a two month season would cost a minimum of $300,000. That's why I'm putting out feelers to see if I can arrange sponsorship from one of the big American *cosmetic houses." (Sponsorship* is commonplace in America).

The Irish Club turned down Renata's first application for membership with an "absolutely not". Now she is a life member. "Polo is not a girl's sport and I think it can never become one," she said. "But I've tried to give up polo and it's impossible. It has gripped me like a disease."



Renata: 'To be taken seriously as a woman, you've simply got to have your own team'

LAVINIA BLACK (handicap 2), a member of Cowdray Park, looks the classic English horsewoman. She has just returned from captaining a women's team in Brunei. At the Sultan's invitation they took on and beat the Brunei police and were only beaten in the finals by the Royal *Armed Forces*.

But, in general, she has little respect for women players. "All-women polo is pretty deadly," she says. "We haven't the physical strength to hit the ball anywhere near as far as men, so women play the game like a lot of old chickens scratching around in a barn. We need more men to open the game up."

She has inherited her highly competitive spirit from her father. He ran a family team, the Maidengrove, with Lavina, her sister and brother. "He raised me with *the view that it is* no good playing unless you go out there to win. My ambition continues to be to play High Goal polo and attain a handicap of 3. I was playing match polo at five months pregnant, in my father's old breeches. *I'm afraid* I had a bad fall at Windsor and *was carried* off to hospital with a few broken ribs and a broken collarbone. My mother was very angry! But the baby was fine."

But her devotion to polo is only achieved with difficulty. She has to care for a husband, James, *who runs his own* furniture factory, a five-year-old, Alastair, and a small country house. "My husband would certainly help financially if he could, but as things stand I can just about cover my costs – about £5,000 a season – by working. I edit a house magazine for a small dairy and I keep 11 horses in livery for other players along with my own five ponies.

"Binny, who's my best pony, is 13 and ready to retire at the end of the season, so we'll start breeding from her. It's up at 8.30 to work like mad and then by three, at least two days a week, I'm off to play chukkas at Cowdray."

At the weekends, James Black, Alastair and his nanny come along to watch. "James isn't *too* keen on my polo priorities, but he copes. He has a lovely time chatting to the wives in the pavilion. He claims, *mind* you, *to be* President of the anti-Polo Association."

Lavinia: 'I was playing match polo at five months pregnant'

CLAIRE TOMLINSON plays High Goal, has a handicap of 4 and is acknowledged to be the world's top woman player. "I certainly never intended to play seriously," she said. "As a child we had our own field in Hertfordshire, and so I picked up the game naturally. Then at Oxford the university team was also short of players and it was a choice between me or two complete beginners, so they asked me. It was slightly tricky because my father coached the Cambridge team.

"Then I married Simon (he was an Army undergraduate who also played polo) I meant to give up, thinking a polo-playing wife was a *contradiction in* terms. it was he who objected: 'Who the hell's going to school my ponies then?', so I just kept on playing, and ride 365 days a year, even when pregnant."

Claire and her husband both play at the Cirencester club and have their own team named *Los Locos* – The Crazy Ones.

Besides looking after their three children and schooling her own and her husband's horses, Claire takes Pony Club polo courses every holiday and teaches private students. She is also one of *Britain's leading* breeders of polo ponies.

"The summer polo season is always my most frantic time. Normally I have a nanny for these months, but at the moment *I'm managing with* someone to help in the house and cook."

This season Claire will – by invitation – play with a Brazilian team *Ipenema*. She *has no particular* feelings about encouraging other women to play: "I think girl riders are basically more interested in eventing because it offers them more opportunity. After all, before you can play polo you've got to find seven more players for a start and the opportunity to train. Most women who do play are those brought up in the game.

"I've seen some natural *chivalry in Latin countries, but* over here I sometimes think there's a contrary feeling among the men – that they think 'if we give the girl a few blows to start with she might wither'."

Claire: 'As a child we had our own field, so I picked up the game naturally'

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The colonel's complaint

Colonel Gaddafi's health in general, and his eyes and his psychiatric health in particular, are beginning to assume the importance of Mr Konstantin Chernenko's chest, or the late Mr Yuri Andropov's kidneys. Loss of sight would be particularly devastating for a Middle Eastern dictator.

Apparently the Foreign Office has forbidden the Scottish surgeon, who recently went to Libya, to comment on his visit, but well-informed sources in London say that unless there have been some very recent developments his eyes are in good order and his eyesight excellent.

But trained observers are less certain about his psychiatric health. There seems no doubt that he can be informal and charming, but there are numerous reports that he hears voices from time to time and goes into the desert to communicate with them. Auditory hallucinations would be considered a worrying symptom and are usually indicative of schizophrenia. He certainly looks strained, isolates himself from the community and trusts very few people.

The way he is alleged to have dealt with a rumoured recent assassination attempt is quoted as an example of his detached ruthlessness; he was offered, it was said, plants with explosives hidden in the pot by some distant kinsmen. He affected great pleasure at the gift, but suggested that as he was about to go out they should accompany him with their plants but in a different car; this branch of the family will be no further trouble.



Gaddafi: communicates with 'voices'

Eye problems, many of which can lead to blindness, are common in the Middle East. It is suspected that his recent so-called "corneal growth" is no *more than a small pterigeum*, a yellow stained unsightly jelly-like mass growing in the cornea, common in people exposed to sun. It is benign and only very rarely reaches the pupil where it could interfere with sight, and it is easily removed. The only malignant tumour which affects the cornea is Bowen's tumour which is very slow growing and excessively rare; it is thought most unlikely that Colonel *Gaddafi would* have this.

The Colonel, born in the poverty of a Beduin tent, might well have been expected to have had trachoma, a chlamydial eye infection of childhood. If he did *his eyes now bear no signs of* past trouble. He also seems to have avoided the other ophthalmic problem common in people exposed to sun: early cataracts.

Arabs, for unexplained reasons, are particularly likely to suffer after a comparatively trivial infection from uveitis, an infection of the inner eye. Retinal detachment is also common in Arab races, but with them, as with other patients, it is usually a problem of middle age.

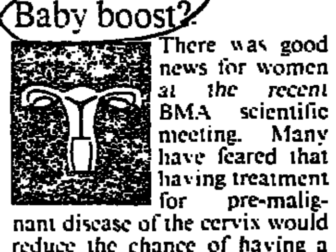
A new pain killer

Controlling pain is an art, the practice of which requires a knowledge of the patient's personality, his disease, and the pharmacological properties of the analgesics available. No one drug is suitable for all cases, and all if they are effective, carry the risk of side effects, overdosage or misuse. A new drug, meptazinol, (Meptid), has recently been made available to general practitioners and heralds a new pharmaceutical battle, this time for the large section of the analgesic market at present dominated by distalgesic.

Distalgesic, a compound of *dextropropoxyphene and paracetamol*, is frequently prescribed by doctors for mild to moderate pain. But its use has been criticized by the media and some coroners following patients' deaths from what they see as unwelcome properties of the drug. Distalgesic in overdosage is toxic, as dextropropoxyphene is a respiratory depressant and paracetamol attacks the liver.

Meptid, the new drug, is claimed to have fewer side effects, such as dizziness, nausea and constipation, than distalgesic and to be minimally toxic.

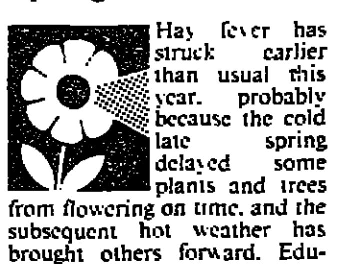
Baby boost?



There was good news for women *at the recent* BMA scientific meeting. Many have feared that having treatment for pre-malignant disease of the cervix would reduce the chance of having a baby. Mr Michael Hare, a consultant gynaecologist, suggested that the lasers used to treat suspicious cell changes may actually improve chances of conception.

He based his comments on some of his patients who had previously had difficulty in starting a family, but who conceived after laser treatment. He suggests that the cause may *be that in the few women who* produce antibodies to sperm the antibody production may be centred in the layer of epithelium which removed by the laser.

Spring fever



Hay fever has struck earlier than usual this year, probably because the cold late spring delayed some plants and trees from flowering on time, and the subsequent hot weather has brought others forward. Educationalists complain that the examination term coincides with the hay fever season.

Although treatment has improved since the introduction of new antihistamine preparations that do not cause sedation and irritability, many sufferers still buy the older varieties which have some effect on intellectual performance.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

We have been asked to point out that Countess Kristina von Merveldt (Monday Page, April 9) no longer works for Montpelier Travel but for Michael Davis Shipping and Travel.

THE TIMES DIARY

The story of his life

Ken Livingstone has ensured that at least one good review will appear today of his biography *Citizen Ken*. How? Because he has written it himself, in a review which appears in today's *Hampstead and Highgate Express*. Predictably enough, he opens with some Thatcher-bashing before reviewing "the best account of his three years at the GLC". Says Livingstone: "There is nothing in *Citizen Ken* to satisfy the appetites of the dustbin diggers and doorstep dawdlers of the gutter press who are desperate for some 'dirt' on me. Apart, that is, from the fact that I used to frighten my sister's girl-friends with my frogs and my mother thought I was so ugly when I was a baby that she covered my face with a blanket and told the neighbours not to disturb me."

The press vendetta does have its lighter sides. "One TV researcher (female) offered to sleep with me in return for an interview", he says, while one of his staff had to take the press on a tour of her bedroom to prove Livingstone wasn't sleeping there. The review does not mention his displeasure at one picture in the book, showing his comatose deputy chief whip John Wilson listening to Livingstone speaking in County Hall (see picture below). Yesterday Wilson told me: "I'd probably heard the speech before. It just shows that some of us working classes who do other jobs get weary at times."



Box and Cox

After being sacked by Algy Cluff as editor of *The Spectator*, Alexander Chancellor wrote "in his unemployed state" saying that he was now happy for me to throw him a crust. Our lunch date next week may now well be cancelled: yesterday Chancellor was appointed assistant editor of the *Sunday Telegraph* – a post which has been created for him by proprietor Lord Hartwell. Chancellor, who for the past few months has suffered the indignity of being *The Spectator*'s TV critic, perhaps ought to hire his old friend Richard Ingrams, editor of *Private Eye*. Ingrams, you may recall, resigned as *The Spectator*'s TV critic in protest at the sacking of Chancellor – only to be left seething when Chancellor eased into the TV chair himself.

Sign of the times

Perhaps Windsor Castle had our American cousins in mind when it decided to issue a guide to etiquette. "When in the presence of the Queen, everyone should stand, gentlemen with their hands out of their pockets. If the Queen approaches you, you should wait for her to speak... please remember you should not squeeze the Queen's hand... the first reference to the Queen should be 'Your Majesty' and subsequent references 'Ma'am', pronounced 'Mam' (to rhyme with jam)... One should also refrain from requesting Her Majesty's autograph, as the Royal Sign Manual is reserved for Acts of Parliament and other documents of state."

Leaving card

While Tam Dalyell MP scowls in his aptly named Scottish ancestral seat The Binns, after being banished from the Commons, I hear that John Biffen, leader of the House, has added a second prompt card to his wallet to remind him of form for expulsions. His original dog-eared card reads: "I beg to move that XXX be suspended from the service of the House." On Biffen's second card, he has printed a name, but refuses to disclose it. As the House speculated, I called the chastened Tam. "I know this is not what you are asking", he said, "but about the Belgrano..." I had to give him 10 warnings before he got off the phone.

BARRY FANTONI



Anstruther's bought one – he's leasing it to the Nottingham police

Baby book

The Warnock Committee on test-tube babies and artificial insemination is working to an unusual deadline. Its secretary, Jenny Croft, is heavily pregnant. Bets are being laid in Whitehall on whether baby or report, both due this summer, will emerge first, prove heavier and create more fuss.

PHS

Edward Norman offers a way forward for South Africa

Apart, not apartheid

Those who would seek a balanced assessment of the problems of South Africa should begin by recognizing that a genuine difficulty exists. Too many observers of the South African scene are so confident that the basic cause of trouble resides in white material self-interest, and the consequent denial of rights to the black populations, that they are unable to discern any other underlying condition. But the truth about South Africa is that it has encountered a dilemma which, almost everwhere else it has occurred in history, has proved to be unresolvable by peaceful means. The dilemma is this: how to create a unitary state out of diverse cultural elements.

The scheme of separate development has seemed so peculiarly offensive to western liberal opinion precisely because the cultural elements left out of the unitary state are defined in racial terms, and thus coincidentally institutionalize racial along with cultural pluralism. But there is no way of avoiding the real existence of cultural diversities, dissimilar social organizations, divergent expectations, and very uneven degrees of progressive advancement between the white and the black ethnic groups.

A century ago, separate development would have seemed the obvious solution, and it was indeed the more liberal among the white Christian missionaries who first suggested it, as a way of protecting the ethnic cultures of black society. In the middle years of the present century, however, liberal opinion has tended to favour integration - all persons living within the old area of the Union of South Africa were somehow to be educated and socially conditioned so that they could become a single constituent of a unitary liberal state.

Hence the contemporary approval for what is usually referred to as "the pluralist society". It is a very incorporative term, intended to cover different creeds, moral ideas and personal customs, existing within a single society, as well as ethnic differences. But it is a concept which can only operate on a temporary basis – it describes a society intransition from one set of social orthodoxies to another – and it certainly only operates where the diverse elements of the plurality are actually already sufficiently similar to agree about the rules of the game.

These conditions do not exist in South Africa; they are, in fact, extremely rare anywhere in the world outside the developed western nations. The normal pattern of the modern world, as in the past, has been enforced social uniformity, or the recognition that many of the peoples living under a single government are not parts of society, and are, accordingly, relegated to its periphery. Countries organized around a single political ideology or national ideal have not been noticeable for their sensitivity to cultural diversities. Consider the fate of the non-Russian peoples in the Soviet Union, or the collapse of the British attempt at a unitary state in Cyprus, or – and this is the best case to lay before the South African dilemma – the single-tribe governments of black independent countries in Africa.

The continued existence of cultural diversity in South Africa is sometimes blamed on the South African whites. Had they spent more time and financial resources on educating blacks in the past, it is contended, real differences between black and white would not now be so marked. It is certainly true that blacks living and working in urban areas are beginning to assimilate to the white material culture, and the more progressive of black political leaders and churchmen have adopted very western critiques of society and the state. But the process is uneven and internally élitist. The larger part of black South African society is still broken up into very diverse cultural entities. Even the westernized urban workers frequently resort to different languages and social customs in their own homes.



The whole influence of the new western emphasis on the preservation of ethnic cultures, furthermore, now legitimizes the diversities. "Black consciousness" in South Africa derives from a contemporary sense that inter-racial cultural uniformity is undesirable: what is needed is a black culture for a black country. It is as insensitive to the continuation of 'white' liberalism as Afrikanerdom is to the notion of an ethnic mixture.

The policy of apartheid is historically very familiar – separate development for different cultural or religious groups within a single territory, sometimes even (as in the South African Homelands) in distinct geographical units. It is unsuited to modern conditions if, one: it institutionalizes racial rather than genuinely cultural differences – where it is possible for a separation to be made; two: the allocations of resources to the various elements are based upon unjust calculations; three: it arrests future social, political or cultural development; or four: it involves actual material oppression. Behind these points the key question remains: how to create a unitary modern state out of diverse cultural elements?

It is likely that within present terms of reference there is no solution. The objectives of the different groups are incompatible. It is, however, reasonable to presume that immediate black majority rule would result in government and policies similar to those in other black African states.

South Africa is a modern, collectivist, western state, with liberal institutions, a high level of technology, a large military establishment – and a nuclear capacity. If these resources were suddenly turned over to a black government, the most powerful black state in the world would suddenly come into existence, sympathetic to many of the objectives, and subject to the same external influences, as the other black states in Africa. The consequence could be a very considerable disruption of the world community.

Western liberal opinion, and particularly the opinion of the churches, is evidently less concerned with these wider considerations than it is with the simpler issue of racial justice. It is unjust, they point out, that blacks are not citizens in their own country. That seems to me to be an unassailable conclusion. But in what sense are they citizens elsewhere in Africa? In very many African states citizenship is a highly formal advantage: the people have the vote but only one party to vote for; they have social equality but the major ethnic groups actually occupy the places of influence; they are free of economic exploitation yet are impoverished. Theirs are formal freedoms.

Christian criticism of South African policies lays great emphasis on the supposed "oppression" of the black populations. In what sense is this meant? Since the material condition of black society is, in African terms, so relatively high, the expression can only really refer to constitutional inferiority. It is true that wages for blacks are considerably below those for whites in comparable employment, and that is an undoubted injustice – one, alas, that is very common almost everywhere else in the world in some form or other. The evil in South Africa is that the wage disparities are based on race distinctions.

My own belief is that the Homelands policy is not oppressive but is mistaken, and my own belief, also, is that apartheid is not the appropriate way of solving the problem of a multi-cultural society living within the geographical area of a unitary state. I find the whole strategy of apartheid highly artificial, probably impossible to carry out anyway, due to the continuing growth of black urban populations, and in itself undesirable since it is an affront to educated blacks who have assimilated to western culture and are therefore denied citizenship solely because of their ethnic categorization.

But what is the alternative? To deny that a problem exists, and to concede majority rule is, in South African terms, unthinkable. It would also produce results – internal dislocation and continental destabilization – of a sort which would unquestionably worsen the condition of South Africa's blacks, in both the short and the long-term. As it is a problem without an available solution, the best course is probably to leave well alone until other elements enter the scene and alter the terms of reference. That is actually quite a fruitful possibility.

The truth about white South Africa is that, despite its advanced technology, it is really a very old-fashioned society. In political, social, moral and religious attitudes it is still some decades behind the rest of the western world. So concerned with the preservation of its folk inheritance from destruction at the hands of the English-speaking culture, Afrikaner nationalism managed to isolate white South Africa from recent social trends in liberal societies elsewhere. But the penetration of external attitudes could never be entirely arrested, and there are now all the signs that the process is accelerating.

The best service the western nations, and the western Christian conscience, can perform in this situation is not to try to bring white South Africa to its knees by isolation and sanctions, but to assist its continuation in prosperity – the very fruits of which, like America in the 1960s, will bear the promise of social transformation.

Extracted from the Haberdashers' Company Golden Lecture delivered yesterday by the author, who is Dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge.

Shirley Williams

Ireland's ball in Thatcher's court

The history of Northern Ireland is the history of lost opportunities. The best prospect for a new start in the province was painfully worked out at Sunningdale, and collapsed in the aftermath of the 1974 general election when the Protestant workers movement struck, effectively defying the Westminster Parliament.

The report of the New Ireland Forum represents another such opportunity. It goes further than the nationalist parties have ever gone before in recognizing and respecting the unionist identity and the Protestant ethos as being as valid a part of the Irish tradition as the nationalist identity and the Catholic ethos. The report is honest about Protestant fears: "Northern Protestants fear that their civil and religious liberties and their unionist heritage would not survive in a united Ireland in which Roman Catholicism would be the religion of the majority of the population". It recognizes the unionist desire to retain the British link. And although the report is critical of Britain's management of Northern Ireland since direct rule was instituted in 1972, it is not lacking in criticism of Republican attitudes. Most important of all, the report is unambiguous in its condemnation of violence and terrorism.

These elements in the report demand an unreserved welcome; the nationalist parties have nailed their colours to the mast of constitutional democracy, albeit that their colours remain green.

The new opportunity must not be allowed to sink under the weight of weariness and dogged despair that now characterizes the British approach to the unyielding problems of Northern Ireland. It is sad that James Prior's first reaction has been to say he is disappointed, and to criticize the report as "one-sided and unacceptable".

The weakness of the report lies, not in its analysis, but in its proposed solutions: The first proposal which is explored in some detail, that for a unitary state, is wholly unrealistic. Its presence demonstrates how much the forum needed the presence of the unionist parties which rejected the invitation to participate.

The one million Northern Protestants will not consent voluntarily to unification. But "consent" coerced by threats of British withdrawal of military or financial support would lead to the existing scenario on an enlarged scale: a disaffected minority which has no sense of belonging to the political entity of which it is a part. The second proposal, for a federation or confederation, is more attractive, but raises some difficult questions. How would decisions be taken? Would the Unionists, in a weighted majority system, in practice have a veto over major matters? What would the "special links" with Britain be? The report stops short at thinking the unthinkable – a confederation of the UK and the Republic – but the logic of the report's proposal, if unionist fears are to be assuaged, suggests that that proposition should be tabled too.

The report, however, is right to be constitutionally imaginative. As it so eloquently says, "political action clearly carries less risk than the rapidly growing danger of letting the present situation drift into further chaos".

The report's solutions are therefore at best long term objectives. Two of them deserve serious discussion, as does the idea of a British-based constitutional link. But there are other measures that might create a new spirit of cooperation in the short-term. The Republic of Ireland is the second poorest country in the European Community. In the list of regions, it comes fourth from the bottom, while Northern Ireland comes second from the bottom, only Calabria in Italy being poorer still. So the case for special treatment by the European Community of the two parts of the island of Ireland is overwhelmingly strong.

So why not establish a committee of MEPs from Northern Ireland and the Republic, the balance on the UK side to be drawn from MEPs from the UK mainland, to put forward major schemes for economical and social development which both governments support? Such schemes, jointly advanced, might start with the need to avoid the duplication of provision in energy, education and health to which the forum report refers. The two governments should pledge that any Community funding of these jointly agreed schemes would be additional to national public expenditure. A second measure worth considering is the establishment of a Joint Select Committee of the two legislatures, the House of Commons and the Dial Eireann, to scrutinize legislation affecting religious minorities in either part of Ireland, and to discuss how to protect human rights in both countries. The forum report suggests such a Bill – or alternatively the rights already defined and accepted in international conventions – as a feature of a confederal constitution. But the consolidation of the European declaration of human rights into British and Irish law need not await confederation. It could be done right away.

A third area for cooperation lies in education. The Republic's textbooks and Catholic textbooks in the North report a very different history from British textbooks and those in the state schools of the North. Why not a commission of inspectors and educators to reconcile what children are taught, and to suggest ways of bridging the gulf between the segregated schools?

On security, the proposal for a border force jointly administered by the UK and Republic is worth looking at. It would avoid the problems now inherent in the hot pursuit of terrorists fleeing across the border.

The SDLP should reconsider its boycott of the Assembly. Before functional powers are given to that Assembly, a convincing power-sharing structure needs to be established, possibly going back to the idea of strong committees, some chaired by members of the opposition.

I hope the Government will use the forum report as a basis for its Anglo-Irish discussions, but, better, it should move towards a second Sunningdale conference at which all the constitutional parties of Northern Ireland and Britain should be represented, and to which the forum should be asked to submit its ideas. No answers can be found without the involvement of the people of Northern Ireland: but time for constitutional answers is fast running out.

The author is President of the SDLP

Will democracy defeat Mubarak?

Christopher Walker reports on the start of Egypt's 'honest' election

Cairo

Political parties in Egypt started campaigning yesterday for what President Hosni Mubarak says will be free, sincere and honest Parliamentary elections on May 27. After a period of unaccustomed calm, away from the international spotlight, Mubarak's administraton is about to be tested.

Many opposition figures agree the election will be the freest for 30 years. "After the dreams of Nasser and the illusions of Sadat, the people wanted a breathing space. Under Mubarak they got a double one, and now they are looking for some excitement and some clear guidance on the way we are moving", explained Mohammed Heikal, Egypt's most trenchant political commentator and Egypt's most outspoken critic of the excesses of the Sadat regime.

We were speaking the day after Egypt had been formally reinstated as a member of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Muslim body from which it was expelled after the 1979 peace treaty with Israel. Mr Heikal remains an unrelenting opponent of the accord. "It has brought nothing but shame", he says. "It will be something that it will take the Arab world many years to forgive."

Despite Mr Heikal's doubts, shared privately by many of his fellow countrymen who are either unwilling or unable to express them so publicly, diplomats have noted that President Mubarak was able to make his return to the ICO on his own terms, without having to abandon the bare bones that remain of the Camp David treaty.

Similarly, Egypt's recent rapprochements with the Palestine Liberation Organization, and with such "moderate" Arab states as Jordan and Iraq, have been achieved without any obvious sacrifices.

Although few senior diplomats in Cairo are prepared to credit Mr Mubarak with great diplomatic vision, those based in the increasingly overcrowded and polluted capital appear to give him credit for performing a difficult balancing act, between peace with Israel and a return to the Arab fold, with considerable skill. "He is a modest, sane and hard-working leader who has so far not made any big mistakes", said one. "But he has not launched any important initiatives either."



Mubarak: lacks revolutionary credentials of his predecessors

Heikal: 'Israeli accord brought us nothing but shame'

One sure indication of the dogged way in which the colourless Mubarak has begun to make an impact is the lack of new political jokes about his alleged stupidity. When he succeeded the assassinated Sadat in October 1981 such jokes were common currency in the Cairo coffee shops. He was often referred to as Teflon, because "nothing sticks in his head".

Because of the lack so far of sweeping changes in anything but style, and Mubarak's failure to acquire a strongly etched image, many Egyptians have deliberately postponed making a final judgment on his performance as the third president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which was formed in 1952 after the revolt of the "Free Officers" overthrew the decadent monarchy of King Farouk.

So far, Mubarak has earned the benefit of the doubt, largely by the way in which he appears prepared to allow the May 27 poll to be – by Arab terms – remarkably free. Most reservations are expressed when it comes to discussing his likely attitude after the voting.

The election will result in a new, expanded national assembly to succeed that elected in June 1979, an election widely considered to have been rigged by President Sadat and leading members of his ruling National Democratic Party.

The first indication of the changed approach towards the six legalized opposition parties – which between them at present have a pathetically unrepresentative 12 seats in the 392-member parliament – came in January.

A by-election was held in a working class district of Alexandria, a sprawling city which has long lost the cosmopolitan charm immortalized by Lawrence Durrell. Although turnout was low, less than 10 per cent of the 38,400 registered voters, Mubarak's party was defeated by the left-wing Progressive Party, which won by 189 votes.

The Progressive Party leader, Mohammed Sid Ahmed – who contends that the president needs true elections in order to revitalize the moribund NDP – later said of the result: "What happened in Alexandria never happened before. For the first time ever, the police were intent, keen even, on having real elections. They were proud of their own elections. There was no cheating."

One reason often advanced for the new approach is that Mubarak – a former commander of the Air Force – lacks the direct revolutionary credentials of his two more expansive predecessors, Sadat and Nasser, and has thus decided to use the elections to establish his own claim to leadership. Certainly his stand has eliminated any accusations of one-man rule which contributed to Sadat's death.

Electioneering has been slow to move into the high gear which might be expected in a country with appalling social problems, where the voice of the opposition has long been neutered by law.

It has chiefly been the remarkable independence of the Egyptian courts which has given the parties their new freedom, especially the dramatic comeback of the New Wafd, the country's oldest party.

Still under the leadership of the venerable Fuad Serageddin (Fuad Pasha) – the 77-year-old who was its general secretary when the party was first banned by the leaders of the 1952 revolution which deposed King Farouk – the New Wafd was later excluded from politics by Sadat four months after its revival in 1978 had shown just how much popular support it still enjoyed.

Last summer, the New Wafd – an incongrous coalition embracing both Muslim fundamentalists and Coptic Christians – announced again that it would resume political activity, but was refused a licence. Its leaders then went to court and secured a ruling in their favour that was later upheld by a higher court. Another court decision has enabled the Socialist Labour Party to hold its first political rally in years.

Although the complexities of the electoral system would give the New Wafd only between 40 and 50 seats in the expanded 490-seat assembly if it attracts the 25 per cent of the vote most diplomats predict, Mubarak is widely acknowledged to be taking serious risks by his cautious move towards genuine democracy.

Some leading members of his government have warned that he could lose the two-thirds majority in Parliament which he needs to be re-elected President, although most foreign observers dismiss the idea. What is more certain, in a country plagued by overpopulation, massive debt, crippling inefficiency, and recently exposed to Islamic militancy, a sudden whiff of political freedom could always open a Pandora's box.

Philip Howard

Core, stone the computer

Let us try not to feel threatened by the computer revolution. Computers are far too serious to be left to computer experts. Computer people are complicators, not simplifiers; they are trying to make it look difficult, as users of new knowledge have always tried to keep their mystery difficult and exclusive.

I am the man who broke two visual display units on my induction course into the new technology, by tapping Catullus V on to them and then pressing the wrong sequence of buttons. *The Times* books page led the mighty army of Times Newspapers into the brave new world of photocomposition; and we are now hot stuff with bromides, and paste-ups, and all the new malarkey. Jolly clever it is at some things, too: such as changing the typeface of a review, or the width of a column, in a twinkling of an eye. Jolly irritating it is at other things, such as the time it takes to make corrections. In the old days of hot metal, you could get a correction from the linotype operator in half the time it takes today.

I do not believe that anybody is ever going to read for pleasure from flickering blue screens. In my observation, the only people who constantly look at Seaflax, or whatever the Book of the Air is called, are news desks and other neurotic neophiliacs morbidly eager to hear the latest. No doubt the textile workers, under their legendary leader, Ned Ludd, made much the same complaints about the new-fangled machinery in the early nineteenth century.

Here is some encouraging news from the front line of the irresistible advance of the computer revolution: computer experts, contrary to appearance, are only human. If you prick them, they bleed developing fluid. If you tickle their keys, they laugh an inhuman cackle. And their use of language is as reassuringly muddled as that of the rest of us.

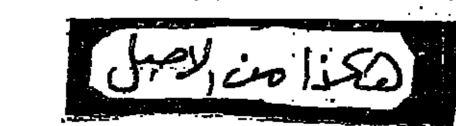
Perpend. Computer technology has advanced so fast that it has left the jargon of computerese behind. We are now in the fifth, or is it the sixth?, generation of the computer revolution. The language cannot keep up with the rush. And computer men are left sounding as anachronistic and nostalgic as the rest of us.

If you mix in such circles, you will frequently still hear computer men talking about "core store". They are referring to the memory of the computer: ie, the part that holds data that is being processed. (Note how computerese treats data as an aggregate singular, like sugar or the sand of the Sahara, because computers deal with data so numerous as to be innumerable.) However, core stores no longer exist in any computer worth its sugar. Since the early 1970s the ferrite cores, which used to be the basis of memory, have been replaced by silicon chips. Computer men, being human, carry on talking about the core store. Good.

For another example, computer men still regularly refer to the processor as the CPU, or central processor unit. This is as quaint as a regiment of tanks referring to itself as dragoons. It is an echo from the far-off-days, all of 10 years ago, when all computers were large, and the processing unit stood in the computer room, surrounded by the peripheral units, ie, the devices that supplied input data and printed output data as it poured out of the central processor unit. Central and peripheral were exact geographical descriptions.

They are no longer. The silicon chip and the microcomputer have enabled the processor and the input/ouput to be housed in one small, fiendishly ingenious device. Computerese still refers anomalously and anachronistically to the CPU. Gigo, or garbage in, garbage out, to that. Computers may be about to make a revolution in our lives (less than they predict, I promise). But they will still be managed by idiots.

And not till the Goths again come
swarming into view
Will cease the clangour of the CPU.



THE TIMES
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ONE ISLAND: TWO NATIONS

The germ of the idea of a New Ireland Forum was in the mind of Mr John Hume in the autumn of 1982. It was a way of floating his party off the sands of abstention where it had run aground on the way to Mr Prior's forthcoming assembly. In the course of the forum's deliberations last year and this, the mission to rescue the SDLP assumed growing importance. It was beginning to look as if constitutional nationalism, of which the SDLP is the embodiment in Northern Ireland, might go under if it could not show more measurable progress towards its ultimate objective. The forum and what followed from it were to supply the want.

By now there is serious anxiety (reflected in the urgency, desperation almost, of some passages in the forum report) that the resilience of the Provisional IRA, the electoral advance of Sinn Fein, its political front, the spreading alienation of some Catholic areas of Northern Ireland, and deterioration of the north's economy and social fabric will lead to more widespread conflict and commotion. It is feared that instability could then spill over to the republic, where Sinn Fein is already feeding on urban deprivation and pockets of social anarchy.

Ireland has undergone both rebellion and civil war earlier in this century. The embers of the first still glow in the north east and combustible material from the second lies around. A recrudescence of civil strife over the face of Ireland, or even a retreat from constitutional forms, would be hardly less injurious to Britain than it would to Ireland itself.

The matter can be exaggerated. Nationalist parties in Northern Ireland have sunk before, losing their votes to patrons of physical force, without the arrival of doomsday. The state is strong in the republic, and the first thought of most of the people there about the conflict in the north is how not to get embroiled. But the dangers drawn in the forum report are real and mounting. It is by reference to them that its authors have their best hope of getting a British government to abandon her policy of holding the ring in Northern Ireland and assume a role that the forum's logic implies for it: to do the necessary to budge Ulster unionism out of its refusal to contemplate a change of nation into a readiness to negotiate for it.

The dangers the forum describes should be acknowledged. Its analysis of their causes is illuminating though incomplete. But the way the forum faces at the end (which is the way it faced at the beginning) is not the only or surest direction in which the analysis points.

The problem is to accommodate in one space two political cultures that are in contention over nationality, Irish nationalism and Ulster unionism. An earlier Dr Garret FitzGerald saw that the route to reconciliation within Ireland as a whole lay through mutual accommodation of the two traditions within Northern Ireland. That necessary first accommodation has now been made more difficult by the forum's emphasis on an unavailable short cut to Irish political unity.

Approaches that have importance for the internal reconciliation of Northern Ireland were looked at in the report. One is for the means of institutional expression and licit display of the pan-Irish ambitions of Roman Catholic citizens in the province. The Ulster Unionist party's position paper that came out just before the forum report nibbled at this. There is at least some overlap there from which to start.

Another relevant approach is by means of associating Dublin with aspects of the administration of Northern Ireland at an inter-governmental level. This appeared in the forum report in an overblown and impractical form as co-equal responsibility for all aspects of government in Northern Ireland. In both cases useful approaches to the immediate problems of the province have been rendered less useful by their inclusion in a strategy to bring about the political unification of the two parts of Ireland, something that, if it is to be, has to be placed either in the distant future or at the conclusion of an Irish civil war.

The forum is very confident that Ulster unionism could be adequately catered for without the union. By the same token the lot of Irish nationalism in that corner of the island need not be intolerable even though separated from its political nation. That is how another sizable chunk of the Irish nation lives, in apparent contentment, in Great Britain.

That condition cannot be reached without large changes in the institutions of Northern Ireland and the attitudes of Ulster Protestantism. The nationalist community in the north deserves a better place in the sun; it must be afforded, and it must be ready to accept, a constructive role in the affairs of the province. There is much in the forum report that could be turned to account for that purpose. The "nationalist identity" of up to two-fifths of the people of the province could and should be acknowledged in any way that is compatible with the firm anchorage of the province in the United Kingdom.

Those are the openings in the work of the forum that Mr Prior should be ready to explore, with some firmness towards unionist reluctance. Mr Haughey having jumped overboard within hours of publication, Dr FitzGerald may feel freer to explore those openings too.

PERIPATETIC POPE

International journeying has become the distinctive mark of the papacy of Pope John Paul II, and now it is the turn of South Korea, Papua New Guinea, Guadalcanal and Thailand. He has taken on the role of parish priest of the whole world, and being a conservative pastor, his instinct is to go parish visiting. He makes quite a success of it, though probably only a man with his rare combination of extraordinary talents could do so. A gift for languages is not the least of these, and he is said to have been studying pidgin English for the papal mass in Port Moresby. Undoubtedly his visits have some effect wherever he goes, though how lasting it is may be uncertain; but a man able to attract mass crowds and massive media attention by the combination of the drama of his office and the charisma of his personality has a unique opportunity to project the Christian message where it otherwise might not reach.

That is one justification: another is that the Roman Catholic Church has become so diverse, linguistically, culturally, racially, and geographically that without some effort to hold it together its very unity would be under considerable strain. It is a particular responsibility of a Pope to fortify the church's unity, and visiting it in person is this Pope's favourite method.

Foreign visits by the Pope were something of a novelty at first, particularly in contrast to the "prisoner in the Vatican" epoch of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, but they have become part of the Vatican's routine. Recent changes among senior curial officials were described as an adjustment to frequent papal absences: some decisions, it was said, were being unduly delayed. It continues to be a mark of the Roman Catholic Church that it is still highly centralised, with many questions – probably far too many – having to be referred to the Holy See. The answers may now come back more smoothly, but less centralisation would be an even better solution.

The present Pope has put a value on international visiting which ought not to be regarded as a precedent binding on his office for all time, nor on himself if his reign is a long one, for it could begin to distort the natural evolution of the church in the direction of the principles established by the Second Vatican Council. Each part of the whole, the "local church", was expected to develop in accordance with the society to which it belonged, one Gospel with many different cultural forms. A universal evangelist with a universal message does not quite fit this model. Sometimes it appears he has been briefed brilliantly, as on his memorable visit to Britain; sometimes he seems rather insensitive, as in his dealings with the church in the United States. The success of his visits depends upon his being able to strike a happy relationship with the public mood, but without being captive to it; and public moods are fickle things. Too much adulation is one danger; or the mood could turn against him. It is a difficult balance to strike: sooner or later there are issues here which the church as whole will have to face, and it would be an appropriate subject for the agenda of the international Synod of Bishops which is now gradually becoming an important element in the Roman Catholic Church's constitution.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

Inquests into government disasters, mistakes or misfortunes are painful but healthy. They are among the phenomena that distinguish democracies from tyrannies. The affair of the Libyan People's Bureau is to be afforded two separate investigations: a secret internal Whitehall inquiry into its security and intelligence aspects; and a public hearing in the forum of the all-party Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs. This two-pronged approach should produce a sensible and acceptable balance.

The internal inquiry will deal with that side of the Embassy-launched murder and woundings which has attracted the most attention. Did British intelligence intercept a message from Tripoli to the bureau in London that had a direct bearing on the outrage? If so, was it processed and disseminated with the urgency it merited? There is a danger of treating signals intelligence as if it were a *deus ex machina* since the Government Communications Headquarters and its work have been almost constantly in the news since January. It is important; vital in fact. It is also a taxing and demanding art. The signals security of medium powers is not a pushover. Material takes time to decode and translate at the best of times. In other words, reading the mind of Colonel Gaddafi is not as easy a task as it would be with a Reuter dispatch on a telex machine.

There are indications that GCHQ did pick up something. Whether the message was standard revolutionary exhortation or a specific incitement to violence is unknown. The impression abroad in Whitehall is that there was no delay in the decoding, translation and promulgation of the message that can be attributed to negligence, inefficiency or a loss of morale in the signals intelligence world since the Prime Minister's ban on trade union membership at GCHQ. An internal inquiry conducted by a senior figure in the intelligence community can swiftly establish the facts. The People's Bureau affair is not comparable to the Falklands. It does not require a Lord Franks to spend months poring through 17-years worth of Joint Intelligence Committee papers.

As so often, the romance of the clandestine has obscured the fact that there is a great deal of important open material lying around upon which a public inquiry can feed. The Commons Foreign Affairs Committee proved itself a skilled and competent corporate investigator on the invasion of Grenada. Where should its examination of the People's Bureau begin? The police, the Foreign Office, the Home Office and MI5 have been aware for a substantial period of time that the People's Bureau in St James's Square was a nest of terrorists. Indeed, Libyan dissidents living in Britain were warned publicly in February that Colonel Gaddafi's hit squads were on the prowl. How did the authorities assess the consequences of this undiplomatic behaviour? Did they consider moving against those "students" in the bureau not enjoying diplomatic status? Did they suggest that ministers might ponder the desirability of declaring the whole bunch *persona non grata* and severing diplomatic relations with Tripoli?

On the level of micro-security (although it does not seem so micro in view of the murder of WPC Fletcher), was any thought given to the need to keep the peace in St James's by steering anti-Gaddafi demonstrations into less vulnerable locations? Such a question might be considered the territory of the Select Committee on Home Affairs. Westminster demarcations should not preclude it from receiving the central treatment it deserves. Sir Anthony Kershaw of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Sir Edward Gardner of the Home Affairs Committee are respected parliamentary veterans who can easily come to some sensible arrangement. However he sets about it, Sir Anthony must range more widely than his intended examination of diplomatic immunity and privileges and the effectiveness of the Vienna Convention. Ministers seem nervous about the Kershaw inquiry. They have no need to be. They should offer him every assistance short of opening the files on signals intelligence to his committee's scrutiny.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A 'flood of filth' into Europe

From Mr John J. Smyth, QC and Mrs Mary Whitehouse

Sir, May we, through your columns, make two comments on the passage of the Video Recordings Bill in the Lords, to which we have listened with the greatest of interest.

Lord Mishcon put down an amendment to ensure that the real video nasty, which receives no classification under the Bill, cannot be exported. Since the debate last Friday we have received the report of the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport of the European Parliament on "the market of violent and horrific video cassettes", dated March 14, 1984. It is clear from that document that the passage of this piece of legislation in Britain is regarded as of the greatest importance by our colleagues in Europe.

The report shows that the United Kingdom has a much higher proportion of video recorders per head of population than any other member state and accordingly the European Parliament are looking to this country to give the lead in introducing appropriate legislation. It is surely unthinkable for us to put our own house in order only to channel the flood of filth into unscrupulous traders in Europe, where there is as yet apparently no effective legislation or control.

One of the conclusions in the report reads as follows:

The member states are able, under article 36 of the EEC Treaty, to prohibit or restrict, on grounds of public morality and protection of human health, imports *and exports* of pre-recorded video cassettes (our italics).

The principle of comity of nations makes it vital to include a prohibition on exports.

Secondly, may we express our dismay at what appeared to be an attempt by a very small minority lobby to talk the Bill out. Do the members of this lobby really think themselves justified in trying to thwart a piece of legislation vital for the protection of our children which has overwhelming support in the country and in both Houses of Parliament?

Yours etc,
JOHN J. SMYTH,
MARY WHITEHOUSE,
Ardleigh,
Colchester,
Essex.
April 30.

Grim outlook for arts

From Mr W. Wealands Bell

Sir, In asking us to consider "what a society deprived of all serious contact with its intellectual and cultural traditions would actually look like", Professor Berthoud (April 27) is forgetting that the majority of the British people is concerned less with how to read "Lycidas" or *Areopagitica* (which is, after all, the nitty-gritty of English study) than with what will happen in next week's edition of *Dallas* and the cut of Boy George's dress.

The real question to ask (and I fear that the answer will be, for most of us, disturbing) is what are we who "study and transmit the literature of the nation" actually *doing* for the society at whose expense we work?

Yours etc,
W. WEALANDS BELL,
Langwith College,
York University,
Heslington,
York.
April 29.

The Heathrow crisis

From Mr A. J. Lucking

Sir, Imposition of the ill-conceived 275,000 annual movement limit at Heathrow airport will damage the UK economy gravely, notably in the regions, with minimal benefit to local residents beyond what technology is achieving and could achieve. Nevertheless, it has emerged that the Government proposes to throttle the development of the vital domestic connections to the regions by such means as a £15 poll tax, though 75 per cent of the users are businessmen, often overseas buyers, and a further 5 per cent are currency-bringing tourists.

Britain cannot afford to squander export prospects now the oil is starting to run dry. Many foreign buyers come from countries where passenger trains are no longer used and so believe that if you can't fly there, you can't get there! Clearly, it is foolish to drive any distance after a long flight.

Apart from the grounding of the "thunderjets" on January 1, 1986, the Microwave landing system should be introduced as soon as possible, so that aircraft can approach at steeper angles and from new directions in the case of the smaller ones.

In the interim period, if ministers feel morally bound by their predecessors' undertaking, terminal four should not be opened:the current need is for more movements, not more buildings.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. LUCKING,
Flat 20,
17 Broad Court,
Bow Street, WC2.
April 26.

Chance of a better deal for Ireland

From Mr Peter Jay

Sir, In your disdainful leader (May 3) on the New Ireland Forum report you at least admit that "the case deserves examination before dismissal." On behalf of those who believe that history will judge harshly those who fluff this rare window of opportunity in Irish affairs, may I ask that this examination should take account of these facts:

1. Over the last quarter-century Parliament has removed full British citizenship, without consultation, consent or notable protest from *The Times*, from many millions of people because it seemed good to the majority in Westminster to do so – and, in cases like the Kenyan Asians, despite the most specific guarantees to the contrary.
2. Westminster partitioned Ireland at the behest of and under threats from the Ulster Protestants.
3. Adhesion to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as desired by Unionists, implies acceptance of the sovereignty of Westminster in which the people of Great Britain (i.e., England, Scotland and Wales) are in a majority of 50:1 over the people of Northern Ireland.
4. This GB majority has, at great financial, human and political cost, underwritten over 60 years of opportunity for the NI minority to develop a successful community in the Six Counties.
5. The majority within that NI minority have made no effective efforts during that time to use this opportunity and the people of Great Britain have an unfettered right to say in Westminster that 60-odd years is time enough.
6. Without threatening to act without the consent of the people of NI, even though Westminster clearly has the right to do so, the Government of the United Kingdom has a perfect right to express the opinion that in the long term a democratic united Ireland would be a healthier component of the British Isles and of Western Europe than a divided Ireland threatened by Marxist terrorism fed by that division.
7. This almost certainly is the opinion of most of the people of Great Britain, to say nothing of most of the people of Ireland.
8. Such an opinion, once expressed, would unite London and Dublin, enhance cooperation against terrorism, justify Britain's policy in Europe and America and invite Ulster Protestants to think constructively and positively about coexistence with their Catholic fellow citizens.

Yours etc,
PETER JAY,
The Garrick Club,
Garrick Street, WC1.
May 3.

Letter of law and the People's Bureau

From Professor M. E. Mazzawi

Sir, Many international lawyers will be puzzled by Dr F. A. Mann's (May 1) liberal interpretation of provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, particularly his statement that the "very special circumstances" of the incident concerning the Libyan People's Bureau justify in law the taking of "entirely different measures".

Article 22 of the Convention (forbidding entry into diplomatic premises except with the consent of the head of the mission), article 27 (on the inviolability of the diplomatic bag) and article 29 (on the inviolability of diplomatic agents) are clear and specific and are part of English law, having been incorporated into the Diplomatic Privileges Act of 1964.

Nowhere in the Act or in the Convention is there any reference to "special circumstances" or to any considerations which would justify departure from the strict letter of the law. Indeed, an examination of the discussions at the United Nations International Law Commission prior to the promulgation of the Convention establishes beyond doubt that the intention was that the Convention should be followed to the letter.

And under English law, and while diplomatic relations between Britain and Libya subsisted, an order could have been obtained from the courts to prevent the Home Secretary violating the Act.

And the only way in which the Home Secretary could have acted differently would have been for him (exercising powers under the Royal Prerogative) to withdraw recognition of the status of the members of the mission, and this he did only with effect from midnight, April 29/30.

On the question of the forcible entry into 5 St James's Square, article 45 of the Vienna Convention provides:

If diplomatic relations are broken off between two states, or if a mission is permanently or temporarily recalled:
(a) the receiving state must, even in case of armed conflict, respect and protect the premises of the mission, together with its property and archives . . .

Thus the building remains "the premises of the mission" even *after* the termination of diplomatic relations and the withdrawal of the Libyan diplomats. It is additionally protected by the Convention as the "property" of the mission, having been bought by the Libyans a few years ago. And forcible entry and search are neither "respect" nor "protection" in the sense required by the Convention.

Maybe the law is an ass. But until it is changed, and in the proper manner, it remains the law and deserves to be respected. And, of course, it cuts both ways.

Yours faithfully,
MUSA MAZZAWI,
The Polytechnic of Central London,
Faculty of Law,
Red Lion Square, WC1.
May 2.

From Dr J. W. Bruegel

Sir, In order to fill the loopholes in the Vienna Convention of 1961 Mr Alastair Brett (feature, April 28) suggests giving "the diplomatic rules some teeth".

The International Court of Justice in The Hague should be authorized to order searches of diplomatic bags and to suspend countries from United Nations membership. Whether such reforms would bring the desired results or not – the court would still be able to act only in case of countries accepting its jurisdiction in that respect – they could become reality only after basic changes both in the United Nations Charter and in the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

Amendments to both documents (article 108 of the Charter, article 69 of the Statute) come into force only if adopted and ratified by at least two thirds of the member states, "including all the permanent members of the Security Council".

Is there any hope that the proposed changes could be adopted and ratified by more than 100 states, including the Soviet Union?

Yours sincerely,
J. W. BRUEGEL,
21 Connaught Drive, NW11.
April 28.

From Mr A. L. Olsen

Sir, Are we to believe that the spent cartridge found in the Libyan People's Bureau was left behind by the occupants in order that it might be found by the searchers so that the Libyans could then claim that it was planted by the police to support their claim that the shots were fired from the bureau?

Or not?

Yours faithfully,
A. L. OLSEN,
Dunchurch-Winton Hall,
Dunchurch,
Near Rugby,
Warwickshire.
May 2.

From the Belgian Ambassador

Sir, Gavin Stamp's article in today's issue of *The Times* ("His Excellency the vandal", April 24) requires some rectification, in that it cites the Belgian Embassy, at Eaton Square, as wishing "to spoil its historic facade by security screens, bomb-proof doors and surveillance devices".

You may wish to know that this embassy has not changed the exterior aspect of its building in the past nor has it any intention of doing so in the future.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. VAN BELLINGHEN,
Belgian Embassy,
103 Eaton Square, SW1.
April 24.

Landscaping and BR

From Dr C. Watkins

Sir, Recent correspondents have discussed the landscape importance of land adjoining railways. In 1893 the forestry expert John Nisbet optimistically considered that such areas "might very easily, without prejudice to the railway traffic, without any danger to the public or the railway employees, but with considerable profit to the railway companies, be made to yield crops of apples or pears, filberts, etc, or be put under coppice for the production of oak bark, osiers, hazel, black alder, fuel, etc, thus providing employment for thousands of people, and home-grown produce for many industries . . ."

The difficulties of harvesting produce have for the most part precluded this type of management; instead railway embankments and cuttings are regularly coppiced to reduce the risk of overhanging branches and falling trees.

It may well be that coppicing will also prove to be an important means of managing the small plantations adjoining motorways, many of which are now over 20 years old. If this was planned well, there could be benefits for wildlife as well as road safety.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES WATKINS,
University of Nottingham,
Senior Common Room,
Hugh Stewart Hall,
University Park,
Nottingham.
April 30.

Police effectiveness

From Inspector B. B. Hesketh

Sir, There is exhibited a misunderstanding of the role of the police officer on foot patrol in your brief summary (April 18) of the study *Crime and Police Effectiveness*.

If a patrolling officer were to do no more than stride about his beat in the hope of bumping into a burglar he would indeed be ineffective. However, before even setting foot outside the police station he should have acquainted himself with those areas of his beat most at risk. He should also be familiar with the identities of active criminals in the area.

Such basic preparation takes him beyond the likelihood of mere chance encounter. Furthermore, in attempting to prevent and detect crime, the patrolling officer should build up contacts in the area by talking to members of the community.

Only by such contacts does the policeman or woman add to the stock of information on which good policing is based. Regular and informal contact, as opposed to the necessary meetings at times of stress, increases the number of people prepared to see the officer as a helper rather than as a hostile and fleeting presence.

Part of the significance of such contacts is acknowledged in the report as regards the public's feeling of safety. Is it not preferable for such safety to result from the active co-operation of the community, including the police, rather than shrinking behind shutters, locks and cameras?

If such "situational measures" are adopted the losers are those people who cannot afford such measures. Indeed we should all be losers for we would cease to be a society or a community but instead a collection of frightened, isolated individuals. Do we really want to live such a "Hobbesian" existence?

Yours,
B. HESKETH,
7 Brownings Mead,
Dunsford,
Devon.
April 18.

A middle-class let-down

From Mrs V. Joan Bentley

Sir, I have been active in support of the Conservative Party for many years, both as a member and as a local officer. I am a housewife and my husband is a civil servant.

During the period September 1, 1980, to March 31, 1984, the RPI has increased by 36.6 per cent, the index of average earnings by 47.9 per cent and the Civil Service pay by 19.4 per cent. Our income has fallen by approximately one sixth in real terms in this period at a time when the real income of almost all persons in employment is rising.

This very real loss in our living standards is permanent since it is very unlikely that circumstances will ever occur where civil servants' pay will rise more than the national average or the rate of inflation.

Furthermore it seems reasonable to conclude from the current 3 per cent pay offer to the Civil Service that the Government regards an annual reduction in its employees' living standards as a permanent feature of all future pay settlements and sees no reason why this process should not continue into the foreseeable future. This seems manifestly unjust to the employees.

To ask any Government employee, or the husband or wife of any Government employee, to continue to support the party in these circumstances is, in the words of an old cliché, "like expecting turkeys to vote for Christmas".

It seems to me politically very shortsighted of the Government to alienate its natural supporters among the middle-class membership of the Civil Service, teaching profession etc by such shabby, unreasonable behaviour and to make a present of their votes to the Liberal/SDP Alliance.

Yours faithfully,
V. JOAN BENTLEY,
10 Barrows Croft,
Cheddar, Somerset.
April 30.

Farm reforms in China

From Mr Cyril Chihren Lin

Sir, It is easy to understand Jonathan Mirsky's criticism (feature, April 3) of growing crime in the Chinese countryside today, but not his assertions on the implications and prospects for rural development following recent agricultural reforms.

Neither the responsibility system in agriculture (1983–4 variant) nor the Central Committee 1984 Document Number One allows peasants to *own* previously collectively-held land, only to *use* (income rights as opposed to property rights) and subcontract out land that has been allocated on a per capita basis. While this may lead to greater income inequalities, to equate this system to the landlordism of the past must surely be contrived.

Equally contrived is Mirsky's suggestion that grain output growth has been sluggish. It is simply not true that "all agricultural products" have grown faster than grain. Grain output increased by 7.3 per cent in 1983 (one of the highest increases in history) compared with a growth in total agricultural output of 5 per cent.

Grain can now be marketed privately once state procurement quotas are fulfilled and this strongly suggests that grain reserves must be near their highest post-1949 level. Mirsky's assertion that widespread hunger is more likely to occur should natural calamities reappear therefore belies logic.

Moreover, the Chinese have never conceded that 20 million people starved to death between 1959 and 1961. What has been roughly estimated, on the basis of figures provided by the late economist Sun Yefang, is that food shortages led to about 20 million *fewer* people because of increased infant and elderly adult mortality rates *and* because of a sharp drop in birth rates.

Present Chinese agricultural reforms do pose serious problems in investments and income distribution, but to criticize a policy of increasing food supplies and rural wealth because of disagreeable side-effects strikes me as a case of throwing the baby out along with the bathwater.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL CHIHREN LIN,
St Antony's College,
Oxford.
May 2.

A female 'Christ'

From Mr P. L. Crill

Sir, The Dean of St John the Divine in New York should be unfrocked for allowing such a blasphemous reproduction of an androgynous Christ to desecrate the walls of the cathedral which has been entrusted to his temporal care.

As for *The Times*, it should be reprimanded, not for reporting the fact of this sculptured travesty (which, alas, reinforces my belief that the Episcopal Church in the United States is in a sorry state), but for publishing a photograph (April 26) of it, which must cause deep offence to many Christians.

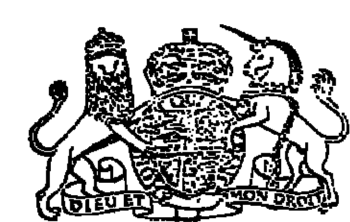
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
P. L. CRILL,
Beechfield House,
Trinity,
Jersey, CI.
April 26.

Poetic injustice?

From the Minister for the Arts

Sir, Mick Imlah ("Bards of our time", May 2) described the late Robert Lowell as "boorish". This, to anyone who knew him, or, I would have thought, anyone who read him, is rather like describing T. S. Eliot as Rabelaisian or Philip Larkin as jolly.

Yours faithfully,
GOWRIE,
Office of Arts and Libraries,
Great George Street, SW1.
May 2.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 3: The Queen was represented by Mr Peter Miles (Keeper of the Privy Purse) at the Memorial Service for Sir Leslie Farrer (formerly Solicitor to The Queen) which was held in the Church of St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street, EC3 this morning.

The Prince Andrew this evening opened the "Lives of the Saints" Photographic Exhibition at the Commonwealth Institute (Director, Mr James Porter).

Wing Commander Adam Wise was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Lyneham, this morning presented Replacement Squadron Standards to No 47 and No 70 Squadrons at Royal Air Force Lyneham.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Wiltshire (Colonel Hugh Brassey) and the Station Commander (Group Captain J. A. Cheshire).

After the Presentation, The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips visited the Headquarters of No 47 and No 70 Squadrons, was entertained at luncheon in the Officers' Mess, and afterwards watched a flying display.

The Countess of Lichfield was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips this evening attended a Court Meeting and Dinner of the Worshipful Company of Carmen at Draper's Hall, London, EC2.

At the Meeting Her Royal Highness was admitted to the Worshipful Company of Carmen (Master, Mr F. R. Bird) as an Honorary Assistant and Captain Mark Phillips was admitted as an Honorary Liveryman.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 3: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Reception given at Bedford College (University of London).

Ruth, Lady Fermoy, Sir Martin Gilliat and Captain James Lowther-Pinkerton were in attendance.

Her Majesty was represented by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, at the Memorial Service for Sir Leslie Farrer which was held in the Church of St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street, EC3, this morning.

KENSINGON PALACE
May 3: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Rothesay, this morning opened the Royal British Legion Housing Association Limited sheltered housing development at MacEwen Court, MacEwen Drive, Inverness.

Afterwards His Royal Highness visited the National Trust for Scotland's Visitors' Centre, Culloden, Inverness.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, travelled in the Royal Train.

The Prince of Wales was represented by the Hon Edward Adeane at the Memorial Service for Sir Leslie Farrer which was held in the Church of St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street, EC3 this morning.

May 3: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon opened the Parkinson's Disease Society Research Centre at Denmark Hill.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

May 3: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived at Heathrow Airport this morning at the conclusion of their visit to United States of America.

YORK HOUSE
May 3: The Duke and Duchess of Kent and Prince Michael of Kent were represented by Major Peter Clarke at the Memorial Service for Sir John Charles, which was held at The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, today.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron, this evening attended a Gala Concert celebrating the Georgian Theatre's 21st Anniversary, Victoria Road, Richmond, Yorkshire.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Alan Henderson.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 3: Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief of the 17th/21st Lancers, this afternoon received Brigadier J. W. Turner, Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel B. G. Hamilton-Russell upon relinquishing the appointment as Commanding Officer and Lieutenant-Colonel R. I. S. Purbrick upon assuming command of the 17th/21st Lancers.

This evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at a Recital given by the Boston Symphony Chamber Players, to celebrate the Bicentenary of the Bank of Boston and the 20th anniversary of the London Branch, at Merchant Taylors' Hall, London EC2.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra was represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy at the Memorial Service for Sir John Charles which was held in The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy today.

A memorial service for the life of Mr Robert Beloe will be held in Lambeth Palace, London, SE1, at noon on Tuesday, May 15, 1984.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr W. G. F. John will be held at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, on Monday, May 21, 1984, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. F. Connon and Miss S-A. J. M. Poynder
The engagement is announced between Donal Francis, son of Mr J. H. Connon and the late Mrs G. Connon, of Ballymena, co Antrim, and Sarah-Anne, only daughter of Commander C. F. T. Poynder, of Rocquaine, Guernsey, and Mrs B. V. Poynder, of Parkfields, Crawley Down, Sussex.

Mr S. A. Crane and Miss S. E. Alderton
The engagement is announced between Stephen Andrew, only son of Mrs Andrew J. Crane, of New York, United States, and Susan Edith, younger daughter of Squadron Leader Ronald H. Alderton, RAF, (Retd) and Mrs Ronald H. Alderton, of Ramsey, Cambridgeshire.

Mr J. R. Davies and Miss A. J. Davies
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs G. W. Davies, of East Dean, East Sussex, and Anna, only daughter of the late Mr D. A. J. Davies and of Mrs V. M. Davies, of Hatch End, Middlesex.

Mr P. B. Dean and Miss M. E. McPherson
The engagement is announced between Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Dean, of Shaftesbury, Dorset, and Moira, eldest daughter of the late W. Duncan McPherson and Mrs D. C. McPherson, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Mr S. E. Holmes and Dr P. C. Goldsmith
The marriage will take place on Saturday, May 12, at St Marylebone Register Office of Simon Eusebius, son of Mr and Mrs E. Holmes, of Foxton, Cambridgeshire, and Portia Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. H. Goldsmith, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Mr N. P. House and Miss S. E. Holloway
The engagement is announced between Nigel, elder son of Mr C. P. House and Mrs B. M. House, of Cloford, Somerset, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs T. J. Holloway, of Charlton, Banbury, Oxfordshire.

The Rev G. J. Hutchinson and Dr J. K. Dods
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr And Mrs G. Hutchinson, of Lewdown, Devon and Janet, daughter of Mr And Mrs S. E. Dods, of Hornton, Oxfordshire.

Mr H. S. A. Matthews and Miss C. G. M. Bunyan
The engagement is announced between Seymour, son of Mrs R. M. A. Matthews, of Pleshey Grange, near Chelmsford, Essex, and Carolyn, daughter of Mrs G. H. T. Bunyan, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. B. Mee and Miss H. R. Blaxland
The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. M. Mee, of Aspley Guise, Bedfordshire, and Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Blaxland, of Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Mr J Kaufman and Miss B Plotnek
The engagement is announced between Jay, son of Stuart and Shirley Kaufman, of Washington DC and Bernice daughter of Harold and Avril Plotnek, of Hampstead.

Mr M. J. Mullinar and Miss G. F. Mothersill
The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of the late Mr Michael Mullinar and of Mrs Mary Mullinar, of Kew, Surrey, and Gill, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Mothersill, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr S T O'Callaghan and Dr C J Alabaster
The engagement is announced between Stephen Timothy, only son of Mr and Mrs T J O'Callaghan, of Olney, Buckinghamshire, and Charlotte Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs W H E Alabaster, of Swansea, West Glamorgan.

Mr D N Perfrement and Miss C M Hewitt
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D Perfrement, of West Springfield, Virginia, United States, and Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Claire Margaret, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B Hewitt, of Colne, Lancashire.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. D. M. Ritchie and Miss A. M. Luard
The engagement is announced between Charles Ritchie, OBE, The Royal Scots, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs William Ritchie, of The Grange, Dolphinton, Peeblesshire, and Araminta Mary, elder daughter of the late Mr and Mrs David Laurd.

Mr D. R. Taylor and Miss J. M. Allan
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Dr and Mrs G. A. Taylor, of Countesthorpe, Leicestershire, and Jacqueline, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs M. J. Allen, of Andover, Hampshire.

Mr D. Wright and Miss C. Edwards
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs T. W. Wright, of 99 Ingrebourne Gardens, Upminster, Essex, and Caroline, the eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Edwards, of Lamorna, Twyford Road, Waltham St Lawrence, Berkshire.

Marriages

Dr A. D. Alonzo and Dr P. C. Beatson-Hird
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 28, at the Church of St Benet, Kemerton, Gloucestershire, between Dr Albert Domingo Alonzo, elder son of Professor and Mrs Domingo Alonzo, of Rome and Dr Philippa Beatson-Hird, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs John Beatson-Hird, of Oldwell House, Ashton-under-Hill, Worcestershire. Father William Hewett, S.J. officiated.

The bride was attended by Marie Alonzo and Sam and Alice Wood.

A reception was held at Norton Park and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr G. J. Carter and Miss F. P. Keogh
The marriage, with nuptial Mass, took place on April 23 at Our Lady of Muswell Roman Catholic Church, London, N10, between Mr Gary Carter, son of Mr and Mrs Carter, of Hornsey, N8, and Miss Fiona Keogh, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Patrick Keogh, of Muswell Hill, N10. Mgr John Crowley and Fr Patrick Heckin officiated.

Mr H. S. Greenberg and Miss L. B. Purslow
The marriage took place on May 3 at South Hampstead Synagogue of Mr Harold Greenberg and Miss Louise Purslow.

Mr C. J. Harding and Miss E. A. Shaw
The marriage took place quietly in Penzance on April 30 of Mr Colin James Harding, son of the late Mr and Mrs Stanley Harding, of West Derby, Liverpool, and Miss Elizabeth Anne Shaw, elder daughter of the late James Edward Shaw and of Mrs Betty C. I. Shaw, of Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Royal College of Music

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, president of the Royal College of Music, has approved the appointment made by the council of Mr Michael Gough Matthews, at present vice-director, to succeed Sir David Willcocks as director after his retirement on December 31, 1984.

Dinners

Carmen's Company
Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips were present at a dinner held at Drapers' Hall last night when the Carmen's Company entertained the Colonels Commandant, Royal Corps of Transport, the Director General of Transport and Movements (Army) and other corps officers, and presented its sword of honour to Second Lieutenant S. A. B. Hemsley, RCT. The Master, Mr F. R. Bird, presided, assisted by the Wardens, Mr C. F. W. Birch and Mr O. Sutherland. The other speakers were the Senior Warden, Sir Desmond Heap, Major-General F. J. Plaskett and Lieutenant-Colonel S. F. Haste, RCT.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor of Westminster gave a dinner at City Hall last night in honour of the Speaker of the House of Commons and Mrs Weatherill.

Chartered Building Societies Institute
The President of the Chartered Building Societies Institute, Mr Arthur Stone, presided at the annual dinner of the institute at the Hilton International hotel, London, yesterday. The principal speakers were Mr Fred Crawley, Chief General Manager-Designate of Lloyds Bank plc, Mr Julius Neave, president of the Chartered Insurance Institute, and Mr R. M. Coverdale, deputy president of the Chartered Building Societies Institute. Mr F. M. Osborn was installed as President of the Chartered Building Societies Institute for 1984-85.

Glaziers' Company
The master of the Glaziers' Company, Mr P. S. London, assisted by the Wardens, Colonel M. H. Seys-Phillips and Sir William Carter, presided at the annual livery dinner held at Glaziers' Hall yesterday. The other speakers were Professor Geoffrey Slaney, Dr C. B. Wynn Parry, and the Renter Warden.

Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company
The Master of the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company, Mr Christopher Rivington, the Upper Warden, Mr Laurence Viney, and the Under Warden, Mr Ray Tindle, entertained guests at a livery dinner held yesterday at Stationers' Hall, to celebrate the granting of the Charter in May, 1557. Mr Peter Barker, Under Warden, Mr Brian Coulton, the Master and the Clerk, Colonel Alexander Rubens, were the speakers.

Castaways Club
Lieutenant the Hon Neil Campbell presided at the annual dinner of the Castaways Club held at Carpenters' Hall last night. Among those present were:
Admirals of the Fleet Lord Lewin and Sir Edward Ashmore; Admirals Sir Desmond Cassidi, Sir William Davis, Sir Desmond Dreyer, Sir James Eberle and Sir William Staveley; Vice-Admirals Sir Peter Ashmore, Sir Stephen Berthon, Sir John Parker, Sir Ernle Pope, Sir John Roxburgh and Robert Squires and Rear-Admirals Sir Anthony Miers, VC, J J Black, P Branson and M La T Wemyss.

Service dinner

London Rifle Brigade Rangers
The London Rifle Brigade Rangers Officers' Club held its annual dinner at the Army and Navy Club last night. Colonel Sir James Schuster presided and Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Miers, Commanding Officer 4th Bn The Royal Green Jackets (TA), was the guest of honour.

Birthdays today

Mr Ronald Aird, 82; Mr Frith Banbury, 72; the Rev Professor C. K. Barrett, 67; the Right Rev D. Farmbrough, 55; Sir Stephen Hastings, 63; Miss Audrey Hepburn, 55; Sir David Hildyard, 68; Major-General Sir Drummond Inglis, 89; Mr Esmond Knight, 78; Sir Edward Pickering, 72; Mr Ron Pickering, 54; Professor Marisa Robles, 47; Mr Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, 53; Mr Edwin Russell, 45; Mr Alexander Schouvaloff, 50; Mr Terry Scott, 57; Sir Norman Siddall, 66; Lord Stoddart of Swindon, 58; Mr Eric Sykes, 61; Professor Basil Yamey, 65.

Founding Societies

The Founding Societies' Centenary Award was presented last night to Lord Benson in recognition of his distinguished services over many years to this country and his profession. The award is made annually to a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales who has made an outstanding contribution in any field of endeavour. Among those present were Lord Richardson, the chairman and presidents of the four Founding Societies, (Liverpool, London, Manchester and Sheffield), members of the selection committee and other members of the institute.

Memorial services

Sir John Charles
The Duke and Duchess of Kent and Prince Michael of Kent were represented by Major Peter Clarke, and Princess Alexandra by the Hon Angus Ogilvy, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Charles held in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy yesterday. The Rev John Williams, Chaplain to the Royal Victorian Order, officiated, assisted by Canon John Treadgold. Lord Peyton of Yeovil and Sir Godfrey Morley read the lessons. Among others present were:
Lady Charles (widow), Mr and Mrs Samuel Fleming and Major and Mrs David Edsell (sons-in-law and daughters), the Earl and Countess of Effingham, Viscount Ward of Witley, Lord Vaizey, Lord Roskill, Lady Peyton of Yeovil, Lady Upjohn, Lord McAlpine of Moffat, the Hon Mrs Angela Lascelles, the Hon Nicholas and Mrs Wallop, the Hon Julian Roskill, Sir Reginald Bennett, Lady Carnwath, Sir Peter and Lady Foster, Sir John and Lady Russell, Lady Morley, Major Donald and Lady Joan Robertson, Mr G T Sammons (senior partner, Allen and Overy) with Mr R E Plummer, Mr A J C Paines and other partners and members of staff.

Mr Robert Gatehouse, QC, Mr Peter Bowsher, QC, Mr Hugh Muir Beddall, Mr and Mrs F Garner, Mr Thomas Harvey, Mrs David Karmel, Judge and Mrs Morton, Colonel S C C Gaussen, Mr John Olliff (Deloitte, Haskins and Sells), Mr J P Sworder (Honorable Artillery Company), Mr D J Boyd (Inco Europe), Mr J A Downes (Charterhouse Group), Mr Alexander Elliot (British Boxing Board of Control), Mr Andrew Hugh Smith (Capel-Cure Myers), Major T P Wootton (10th Hussars) and Mrs Wootton, Mr Rodds Dudley-Smith, and Mr George Hume.

Sir Leslie Farrer
The Queen was represented by Mr Peter Miles at a memorial service for Sir Leslie Farrer held at St Magnus the Martyr yesterday. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther and the Prince of Wales by the Hon Edward Adeane. The Rev Barry Finch officiated. Mr David Dell read from Plato's *The Apology of Socrates* and Mr William Farrer read from *The Wisdom of Solomon*. Mr Duncan Stirling gave an address. Others present included:
Sir Matthew and Lady Farrer (son and daughter-in-law), Professor and Mrs Edward Garden (son-in-law and daughter), Luke Farrer and Jonathan Garden (grandsons), Mrs William Farrer, Mr Philip Farrer, Miss Caroline Farrer, Mr and Mrs Patrick Woodroffe, the Hon Anne Farrer, Dr and Mrs John Farrer, Mrs Hugh Farrer, Mr and Mrs Mark Farrer, Mr James Farrer, Mrs A Schilling, Mrs L Scott.

Major General the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquess of Lansdowne, Rear-Admiral Earl Cairns, the Countess of Limerick, the Earl of Inchcape, Viscount Leverhulme, Viscount Runciman of Doxford, Viscount Hanworth, Lady Butler of Saffron Walden, Sir Robert Megarry (Council of Law Reporting), the Hon Mark Bridges, the Hon Hugh Astor, the Hon Charles Morrison, MP, Colonel Sir John Carew Pole, Meriel Lady Salt, Sir Humphrey Prideaux (London Life Assurance), Sir Seymour Egerton, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, Sir Peter Thorne, Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe, Sir Oliver Chesterton, Sir Edward Ford, Sir Spencer and Lady Le Marchant, Sir Arthur Driver, Sir Godfrey Morley (Selden Society).

Sir Andrew Stark, Chief Master Heward, Mr David B Money-Coutts (chairman and managing director, Coutts and Company), the Rev Christopher Courtauld, Mr C R V Holt, Mr Christopher Heaps (president, Holborn Law Society), Mr John Norton (Fishmongers' Company), Mr A D Malcolm, Mr Simon Birch, Mr John Phillimore, Commodore C P C Noble, Mr Brian Till, Mr G R C Shepard, Mr P J S Lumsden, Mr A K Butterwick, Mr and Mrs J H Scott, Mr and Mrs J P Gough, Mr D T Young, Mr E S Earl, Mr M R T O'Brien, Mr H V Hodson, Mr Henry Boyd-Carpenter, Dr Priscilla Metcalf, Mr John Previte, Mrs H Bruce, Mr H Douglas-Pennant, Mr Oliver Dawnay, Mr James Eve, Mr M R Monier-Williams (Lowtonian Society), and Miss R Addis.

Mr J. Pringle
A memorial service for Mr John Pringle was held at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, yesterday. The Rev Dr David Thompson officiated and gave an address. Mr Richard Baker, President of the Friends of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship, read the lesson and "Peace" by Henry Vaughan. The Dowager Lady Wakehurst, Vice-President of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship, and Mrs B. J. Major, chairman, were present.

Funeral service

Mr R Beloe
The Right Rev Lord Coggan gave an address at the funeral service for Mr Robert Beloe, which took place at St Peter's, Petersham, Richmond, Surrey, yesterday. Canon Ronald Brownrigg and the Right Rev C. J. Patterson officiated. The lesson was read by Robert Higginbotham, grandson, and the obligato to Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" was played by Wycliffe Stutchbury, grandson.

Science report

Killer bees go on the move again

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

An infestation of the so-called killer bees of Latin America has erupted again. Attempts to stem their spread with insecticides and biological controls has failed over the past 10 years.

The insects began to spread rapidly after they were released accidentally from an experimental station in São Paulo, Brazil, in 1957. Since then colonies have been migrating steadily northwards at a rate of up to 200 miles a year.

The birth of the killer bees began with an experiment to create a strain from the tropical African bee into which was to be bred the docility of the European honeybee. But something went wrong. The result of the cross-breeding was a strain which soon dominated the territories into which it spread, and the 26 swarms which escaped have born countless numbers of colonies that have ousted the gentler indigenous creatures.

A report this week from our correspondent in San José, Costa Rica says the appearance this year of swarms in that area is causing concern. Furthermore, their arrival marks a steady advance through Central America from which calculations show that the strain could be expected to cross the Rio Grande into Texas by 1990.

The sting of the killer bee is not more potent than the European honeybee, but the bee is more aggressive and the chance of getting stung by one or more insects is much higher. They react quickly and in large groups when disturbed.

Experience shows that every time the killer type reaches a new country honey production drops by at least a fifth. The reason is that as the new strain begins breeding with the European honeybee then the number of beekeepers drops, because of the difficulty of handling the hybrids and because of complaints from the public about being stung. An incalculable side-effect is the loss of the most important pollinator of crops.

OBITUARY

MAY McAVOY

Screen star of the silent era

May McAvoy, the actress who played Al Jolson's leading lady in the first real talking film, *The Jazz Singer*, has died at the age of 82.

She was born in New York on September 18, 1901, her family owning a livery stable on the site now occupied by the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. A pretty brunette with large, appealing eyes, she entered films as a teenager after modelling and promotional work and soon graduated to female leads.

After a personal success in a James Barrie adaptation, *Sentimental Journey*, in 1921, she was offered a contract by Paramount and went to Hollywood. She broke with the studio two years after refusing a scantily clad part in Cecil B. De Mille's *Adam's Rib* and went freelance.

During the 1920s she enhanced her reputation in such films as *The Enchanted Cottage*, with Richard Bathelmess, the Lubitsch version of *Lady Windermere's Fan* and the famous silent version of *Ben-Hur*, in which she played Esther opposite Ramon Navarro. *The Jazz Singer* was one of several films she made for Warners but she retired from films after marrying a business executive in 1929.

At the time it was reported that Warners had dispensed with her because of a lisp but she later denied this. In 1940 she attempted a come-back with MGM and remained under contract until the mid-1950s but she was used only for bit parts and as an extra.

MR W. J. O'BRIEN

Mr William Joseph O'Brien who has died at the age of 76, was the inventor of the system of radio position fixing now known as the Decca Navigator.

Originally conceived from experiments to measure accurately the ground speed of an aircraft, the system fixed the position of the aircraft by comparing radio signals received aboard it from spaced ground transmitters.

This was later developed as an aid to marine navigation being first used for minesweeping and landing craft navigation on D-Day, after O'Brien who had conceived the system in America, had it brought to the attention of the Admiralty in London, through a former colleague, Harvey Schwarz, then technical director of Decca Radio and Television in London.

Later the system was developed internationally with chains of transmitters being set up in many parts of the world to cover coastal and offshore seaways.

O'Brien was technical director of the Decca Navigator Co Ltd from 1945 to 1980 and received many awards including (with Harvey Schwarz) the Gold Medal of the Royal Institute of Navigation.

MR R. E. ELLISON

Mr Randall Erskine Ellison, CMG, who died on April 23 at the age of 80, had an active career in the Colonial Service, with responsibilities for education in Nigeria, British Somaliland and Tanganyika. On his retirement he played a leading part in the affairs of Westfield College, London, where he was successively Chairman of the Council, Hon Treasurer and Hon Fellow.

Born on March 6, 1904, the son of Prebendary J. H. J. Ellison, he early showed an aptitude for music, and went to St George's Choir School in Windsor before going on to Repton and New College, Oxford. He joined the Colonial Service in 1928, to become Superintendent of Education, Northern Provinces, Nigeria. In 1937 the Crown Agents published his handbook *An English-Kanuri Sentence Book*.

He was later Director of Education, British Somaliland, 1938-43, when he also saw active service with British Somaliland and Nigerian forces; deputy Director of Education, Tanganyika; and Director of Education and chairman of the Public Service Commission, Northern Region, Nigeria.

On taking early retirement, he became assistant secretary of the Church Assembly before becoming an honorary steward of Westminster Abbey, hon treasurer of the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library and chairman of the Africa committee of the Church Missionary Society.

DR ROBIN BEST

Dr Robin Best, Professor of Land Use at Wye College, University of London, died suddenly at his home on April 20.

Though a North Yorkshireman by birth, he had spent the whole of his working life at Wye College. He was the originator of one of the earliest degree courses in Environmental Studies and, as such, he foresaw the development of national concern over the rural environment.

Over a period of 30 years he developed a reputation for careful and meticulous scholarship, which led to his being recognized as a leading authority on land use structure and competition in Britain. By nature a retiring man, he lived to see many of his ideas on questions of land use and planning become generally accepted. He published widely in his field, including in 1981 the book *Land Use and Living Space* which set out the main themes of his work.

He leaves a wife and two married children.

Gordon Jenkins, the American light music composer who has died at the age of 73 came to popular prominence with his "Manhattan Suite" and also achieved chart hits with songs like "PS, I Love You" and "San Fernando Valley".

Mr John Marriage, QC, a prominent criminal lawyer and a Recorder of the Crown Court since 1972, has died at the age of 54. He was deputy chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board 1976-83 and chairman of the Criminal Bar Association

also on page 26

THE ARTS

Theatre

Just what we all want to see

Forty Years On
Chichester


Douglas Jeffery
Paul Eddington's deliriously funny portrait

Those, like me, who cold-shouldered Alan Bennett's first play were responding rather like the fun-loving Evelyn Waugh character who snubs a married acquaintance for having "gone serious". Back in 1968 we wanted *Beyond the Fringe* writ large from Mr Bennett. We were not prepared for a piece dripping with nostalgia for the Edwardian past and undercutting every satiric episode with expressions of affectionate regret.

Sixteen years on, Mr Bennett has built up a devoted audience for the same brand of wry, negative patriotism. His plays are more tightly designed nowadays. But the form of *Forty Years On* was what he needed to make the transition from revue-sketch writer to playwright.

Opening as a school play and rapidly splitting up in all directions into backstage squabbles and flashbacks over the century through the perspective of the two wars, the piece is like a crumbling ghost-infested mansion. Bennett first leads into the still splendid hall, and then starts opening the creaking doors to show the spirit of the Lost Generation, the Bloomsbury Group and other heroically absurd spectres eternally occupying the premises.

It is an image that fits his view of England, and Albion House School, as well as the state of his craftsmanship. The weaknesses are obvious. Life goes out of the dialogue whenever it drops parody for direct present-tense statements. No school play could survive the disruptions this one undergoes. The multiple time-changes can leave you stranded in the mid-mid-Thirties when the action has moved on to the war.

However, calling the result ramshackle only proves Bennett's point. And the crowning jusificaton of his method is that, no matter how unlikely any turn of events, what he shows you is what you want to see. You want to see the traditionalist headmaster outraged by the play, and storming onstage to break up an improper Wilde parody or the indecent exposure of Lady Ottoline Morell. You want the cascades of brilliantly rude word-play from the most prudish of lips. You also want the hymns to the Edwardian lost paradise and even the gallant defence of Chamberlain.

At Chichester, as at its original production, the director is Patrick Garland, who might have done more to establish the time shifts but who excels in handling a stage full of public school juniors and weaving their clandestine note-passing and nose-picking into the general picture. Musically, their orthodox and underground school songs – to halting organ accompaniment – are also a treat.

Forty Years On has its place as the play that first tempted Gielgud back into the modern theatre. His erstwhile housemaster, Paul Eddington, now succeeds Gielgud as the diehard traditionalist head – hair wildly upswept, eyes darting suspiciously behind steel rims, smoothly handing out caning instructions in mid-prayer, and continually drifting into a state of glazed bewilderment when it becomes obvious even to him that he is talking nonsense. It is a deliriously funny portrait of a man who has been on solid ground all his life and now feels it quaking under his feet.

He gets staunch support from John Fortune as the liberal incoming head, and from Stephen Fry who earns all his laughs for his confirmation class at St Onan's even though it seems closely modelled on the author's own performance in this part. Mr Bennett is no doubt a more skilful playwright than he was then. But this is a reminder of how brilliantly funny he was before the full weight of responsibility fell on him.

Irving Wardle

A Chorus of Disapproval
Stephen Joseph, Scarborough

After Stratford's anniversary comes Scarborough's. Twenty-five years ago a young actor-playwright, barely 20, appeared in his own comedy *The Square Cat*. A few years later the West End discovered Alan Ayckbourn, and the rest is history.

His work during this quarter-century is rich in major and minor masterpieces that will certainly live and are now overdue for revival. Lately, however, his muse seems to have taken a holiday. Now self-directed, his plays have got longer (as well as more negative) and one's usual pleasure at recognizing the kin of earlier characters and situations becomes suspicion that he is just recycling them.

This latest, his thirty-first full-length play at Scarborough, lets one of his innocent heroes loose among the familiar pack of the sad and destructive – in this case the Pendon (remember Pendon?) Operatic Society, which young Guy (Lennox Greaves) joins socially after his wife's death. With *The Beggar's Opera* looming, the Leeds boy meets some relentlessly caricatured additions to Ayckbourn's gallery of suburban deadlies: the powerful local councillor (Alan Thompson) obstinately diagnosing him as a Scot, a Welsh bore of a director called Dafydd, sex-puss Fay (Lesley Meade) and her macho Ian (Mark Jax), and surly stage-manager (Jane Hollowood) whose surlier father runs the joyless stagedoor local.

Enough, you might think, for a Willy Russell – or, as here, the former author of a clutch of classics – to furnish a feeble, prolix and sometimes surprisingly heavy-handed piece eked out with farcical business. Guy also meets Dafydd's frustrated wife; and their doomed love blossoms in a little world without privacy or pity. The usual suburban-community business network entraps him still further.

Caught between Hannah and Fay of the wife-swapping parties (to which he unknowingly brings an old-age pensioner) as he rises through successive substitutions from a walk-on up to Macheath, his predicament permits some witty musical cross-references. But even the best scene, in which the deceived Dafydd confides his wife's frigidity, ends in a shameless borrowing from *Confusions* (someone has switched on the Tannoy).

No amount of shrewd observation of amateur dramatic ruthlessness, hysteria and tantrums can disguise all the recycling. The fur-coated prima donna (Heather Stoney) last wore her crinoline in *Ten Times Table*. The old seam, at least, appears to be finally worked out; but closing uneconomic mines is easier to advise than to accept.

Anthony Masters

Cinema

Magnanimous view of a small drama

The Mission (PG)
Academy

The Tragedy of Carmen (PG)
Barbican

The Dead Zone (18)
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue; Classics Haymarket, Oxford Street

The Trouble With Harry (PG)
Plaza

Parviz Sayyad, regarded as an elusively subversive film-maker in the Shah's Iran, made the last Iranian film before the revolution. **The Mission**, which Sayyad shot in New York in the Iranian language, is the first expatriate Iranian film to use as its background the terror and divisions of the new Iran. The story is a classic tragi-comic theme: the assassin who grows emotionally close to his victim and begins to doubt his mission. Daoud is a Khomeini hit-man, sent to New York to eliminate an *émigré* enemy of the regime. When someone else gets to his intended victim before him, he is given a new mark, a former colonel of SAVAK.

His first attempts misfire: instead he finds himself accidentally rescuing his own intended victim from subway muggers. The colonel forces friendship upon him; and, as he sees more of the man's home and children, his fortitude in face of a wretched fugitive life, deprived of his wife and working as an office cleaner, Daoud's resolve weakens.

Sayyad has a large view upon this small drama. He does not attempt the impossible choice between two intolerable alternatives; but he shows that, where people have no alternatives but frying-pan and fire, honourable men, as well as the corrupt, will be caught up on either side. Daoud, acting in trust, good faith and genuine religous devotion, is something better than a blind zealot. The colonel proves that even an officer of the Shah could deplore corruption and bad faith.

Well structured, vividly evoking the different residential levels of New York in all of which an uprooted Islamic culture seems as incongruous, the film's greatest strength is Sayyad's feeling for character. He himself plays the stout, impulsive, naively wise colonel. Houshang Touzie makes us believe, and even sympathize with, Daoud's rock-like resolve which can only slowly and painfully be chipped away. Mary Apick, as the colonel's sister-in-law, the most direct challenge to Daoud's resolve, is a spirited and attractive actress, who worked with Sayyad in his Iranian days.


Challenge to a hit-man's resolve: the spirited Mary Apick with Parviz Sayyad himself as the colonel

Carmen, which has inspired a score of films since 1907, has been assaulted in the past year no fewer than four times, by Godard, Saura, Francesco Rosi and Peter Brook. Brook's version, **La Tragédie de Carmen**, proves in every way the most interesting. It evolved out of Brook's celebrated production at his Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, which ran for 200 performances, with three different casts.

In collaboration with the writer Jean-Claude Carrière and the musical director and conductor Marius Constant, Brook adapted the opera to the scale of his theatre, orchestrating the score for 15 instruments and concentrating the action as intimate drama, with never more than four people on the stage. Carmen's fight with Micaela is now a private backyard brawl; an Expressionist gallery is all that is needed to suggest the bull-ring. Sven Nykvist's photography, sombre but precise, concentrates on close-ups. Georges Wakhevitch's sets provide an austere but evocative framing

Brook and his collaborators have aimed to restore the sinewy toughness of Merimée's original tale, stripping it of the romantic and folkloric accretions of traditional opera-house productions. Given the intimacy of chamber drama, it becomes a savage play of passions. This Carmen is no *femme fatale* of romance, but a dangerous wild thing, neurotic, capricious, unrestrained by moral scruple, submissive only to a superstitious fatalism. From her first appearance she exudes an eerie sense of peril that complements the desperate brute violence of Don José. Concentrated and intimate as it now is, the drama generates unflagging tension and excitement.

Brook made three versions of the film, with his three different casts. That chosen for the Barbican screenings has Hélène Delavault as a watchful and taunting Carmen, Howard Hensel as an anguished José and Jake Gardner as an urban and expansive Escamillo.

The novelist Stephen King is a current favourite with makers of films of horror and the occult. Stanley Kubrick filmed *The Shining*, Brian DePalma *Carrie*, Lewis Teague *Cujo*, Tobe Hooper *Salem's Way* and John Carpenter *Christine*. Still on the way are Mark Lester's *Firestarter* and George Romero's *The Stand*. David Cronenberg's **The Dead Zone** is to date the best of the series.

Economically adapted (by Jeffrey Boam in collaboration with Cronenberg and the producer, Debra Hill) from a more rambling novel, it is the story of a young schoolteacher who is involved in a car accident, and emerges from a consequent five-year coma to find he possesses – or is possessed by – second sight. The drama lies in his battle with the responsibilities and hazards conferred by the "gift".

Cronenberg is a Canadian whose undoubted flair for the horror genre (*Scanners*, *Videodrome*) has been vitiated by a weakness for disgusting special effects involving oozing innards. Here, with this tendency better kept in check (though there is a fairly nasty suicide by scissors), Cronenberg's talents can be seen more plainly. He is as skilful with big set-pieces – the automobile crash, an assassination at a political rally – as with more intimate *frissons* like the hero's sudden visions of catastrophe.

A large part of the film's effect, though, is due to the quality of the leading performance. Christopher Walken has become an impressive actor, able to enforce belief in the intelligence, the plight and the anguish of the tormented young man, who feels his bodily force diminishing with each supernatural vision. The medical pronouncements of Herbert Lom, as the friendly doctor, do not so readily suspend disbelief in a tall but taking story.

The latest Hitchcock reissue is **The Trouble With Harry**, made in 1956 and for many years unavailable. This was the third screenplay written for Hitchcock by John Michael Hayes, immediately following *Rear Window* and *To Catch a Thief*. Though the setting was changed to Vermont, Hitchcock always regarded this as the most British of his American films.

Its Englishness lies in making light of the two themes that are perennially most disturbing, particularly in the kind of Puritan America where the story is now set. The trouble with Harry is that he is dead but will not stay buried. When his corpse is discovered in the forest, everyone around tries to assume responsibility: the wretched Harry is three times exhumed and seems always underfoot. The comic understatement too is very British: "What seems to be the trouble?" inquires the elderly spinster (Mildred Natwick) reduntantly when she meets the police captain hauling Harry's remains through the forest.

Hitchcock shot the film rapidly, to catch the colours of the New England autumn, and, to judge from his own account, light-heartedly. Subsequently it has acquired the interpretative commentary that attaches to Hitchcock's films, with the French critics reading it as a parable on the Resurrection and the Americans finding in it a more generalized moral debate between a restrictive Gnostic Puritanism and a Judaeo-Christian optimism.

The casting is of interest: alongside Shirley MacLaine, making her first screen appearance as Harry's widow, is Edmund Gwenn, who worked with Hitchcock in England as early as 1931, as the elderly captain.

David Robinson

Television

Intimate flexibility

Edwin (Channel 4) concerned a retired judge who suspects his wife of having had a "relationship" with his neighbour; in another age, that might have been the material for domestic tragedy of a peculiarly bloody kind, but now it is really suitable only for comedy. Alec Guinness, in the part of the judge, pronounced the words "rogered" or "rogering" with the same relish that Edith Evans once lent to "a handbag!", and with much the same effect – his carefully modulated voice, and the expressions which he manipulates as if his face were composed entirely of Plasticine, seem in any case always close to self-parody.

John Mortimer, whose play this was, possesses a natural fluency of expression (he could turn a conversation at a bus-stop into a three-act drama) and as a result he has no difficulty in accommodating himself to the demands of television. He is in some ways assisted by them, in fact – since this play employed both confessional monologue and social comedy within the broad setting of a country house drama, it was well suited both to the intimacy and flexibility of the medium. Mr Mortimer still writes in sentences rather than phrases, which added to the leisurely pace of the proceedings; and in this, too, he was well served by his director who allowed the words to acquire their own slow momentum without any fussy interpolations from behind the camera.

Edwin was really a comedy about old age, in which the judge and his hapless neighbour (excellently played by Paul Rogers) are seen to be steadily losing their grip upon life as they try to clasp it more firmly – principally through their responses to the eponymous Edwin, whom each claims and then rejects as his son.

Given the pleasant rural setting, and the somewhat self-conscious eccentricity of the characters, the play might even be seen as a celebration of Englishness – a quality of life best displayed in the way that they could say the most dreadful things about each other in a desultorily bitchy manner. Such plays are generally set in the India of the Raj these days, so it was good to see one firmly rooted in Norfolk. There was a great deal of pleasure, also, to be derived from watching the actors make the most of their lines, and of each other; but since the action consisted only of their moving from room to room in order to view their situation from a different aspect, *Edwin* was perhaps just a shade too long.

Peter Ackroyd

When Scott Fitzgerald remarked to Hemingway that 'the rich are different from us,' he was surely over-simplifying.

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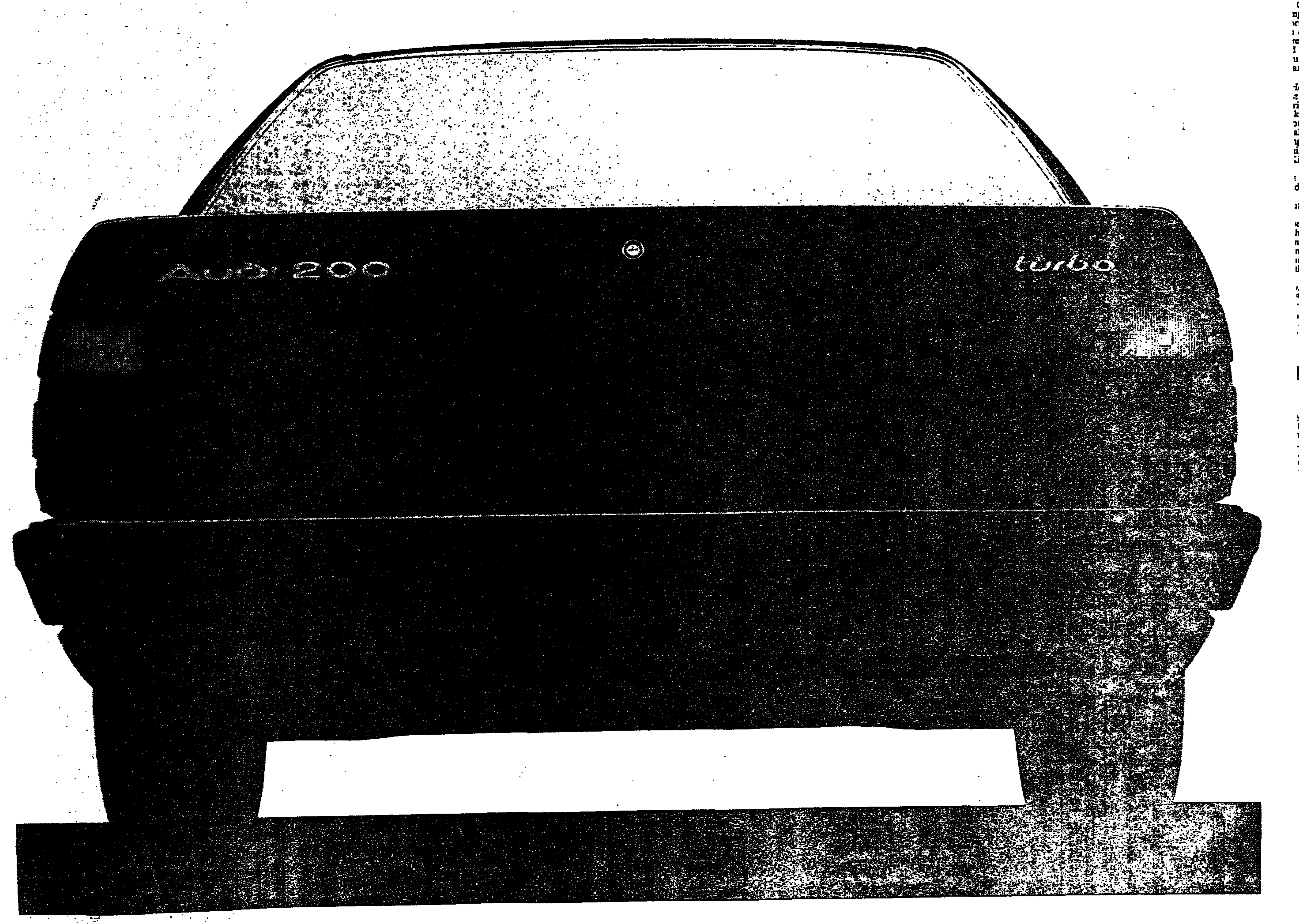
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93	65	Dale Electric	91	+3	6.1	6.7	9.3
482	306	Dalgety	460		31.4	6.8	12.4
106	67½	Dataserv Inc	106	+6	1.0	1.0	27.2
355	178	Datastream	355	+20	6.2	1.7	57.9
231	65¾	Davies & New	210	-3	14.3	6.8	6.8
95	64¾	Davis G. (Hldgs)	93		5.7n	6.1	9.1
68	36	Davy Corp	66	-3	5.3	8.0	10.0
194	90	Debenhams	189	-2	9.9	5.3	17.4
670	525	De La Rue	610	-5	33.6	5.5	12.4
515	240	Dee Corp	490	-1	24.3	5.0	20.2
146	90¾	Dewhirst I. J.	129		1.7	1.3	20.9
310	171¾	Dixons Grp PLC	290		5.8b	2.0	12.4
105	83	Dom Hldgs	92		6.5	7.0	10.0
140	80	Dom Int Grp	137	+1	6.0	4.7	8.5
82	57	Douglas R. M.	60		2.5	4.2	
58	40	Dow'd & Mills	58		3.2	5.5	12.5
158	101	Dowty Grp	137		5.6	4.1	10.5
76	38	Dunlop Hldgs	43	+1			
36¾	18	EBES	£35⅞	+⅛	291	8.1	

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
60	37¼	Kwik Fit Hldgs	44	-1	2.2	5.1	8.6
200	133	Kwik Save Disc	178	-2	5.2	2.9	37.6
100	52	LCP Hldgs	87		5.1	5.9	19.4
130⅞	92	LRC Int	95	-1	4.5	4.7	12.6
274	160	Ladbroke	232	-2	12.9	5.6	12.8
128	86	Laird Grp	116		7.1	6.2	6.7
233	94¼	Lambert H'wth	218	+13	8.2	3.8	9.7
476	227	Laporte Ind	473		15.0	3.2	16.5
272	206	Lawrence W	230	-14	14.6n	6.4	5.2
153	83	Lee Cooper	143		5.0	3.5	5.1
101	55	Leigh Int	97		1.8	1.8	
560	345	Lep Grp	560		25.0	4.5	
436	159	Lex Services	423	+10	23.7	5.6	10.7
89	30½	Lincroft Kilg	86		4.3	5.0	8.2
508	313	Link House	500		20.6	4.1	19.7
435	223	Logica	404	+7	1.4b	0.4	55.3
133½	92¼	Ldn & M'land	128	+1	11.1b	8.6	15.5
110½	55	Ldn & N'thern	88½	+¼	6.0	6.8	15.4
186	62½	Ldn Brick Co	183	h	7.9	4.3	10.5

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
97½	56¾	Sears Hldgs	91½	+½	3.0	3.3	19.3
322	223	Securicor Grp	223	-4	2.1	0.9	35.3
319	201	Do NV	208	-3	2.1	1.0	32.9
334	223	Security Serv	223	-4	3.9	1.7	24.3
332	199	Do A	208	-3	3.9	1.9	22.7
18	9¼	Selincourt	18		0.0	0.2	
48½	22	Shaw Carpets	45½		2.1	4.7	32.3
432	275	Sidlaw Group	430		22.9	5.3	9.1
396	257	Siebe Gorman	360	+14	13.5b	3.6	12.4
503	328	Simon Eng	496	+1	18.9	3.8	9.9
158	81½	Sirdar	145		6.4	4.4	16.1
84	53½	600 Group	83	-1	7.5	9.1	16.0
412	358	Sketchley	361	+1	20.0b	5.5	15.8
236	137½	Smith & Neph	236	+5	6.4	2.7	20.8
158	112	Smith W. H. 'A'	148	+2	4.3	2.9	19.0
33	22½	Do "B"	30		0.9	2.9	19.4
583	350	Smiths Ind	563	-2	17.5	3.1	16.9
150	51	Smurfit	150	+1	5.3	3.5	20.1
72	30	Snia Viscosa	67	-1			
44	19	Solicitors Law	28		..e	..	45.9
216	152	Spirax-Sarco	200		18.1	9.1	12.3
94	22	Staffs Potts	79		0.0e		
119	86	Stag Furniture	92		7.5	8.2	7.6

MONEY MARKETS

Clearing Banks Base Rate 8½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 8½ Low 5

Week Fixed: 8⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8⅝	2 months	8½
3 months	8⅞	3 months	8⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	8[illegible]-8½	1 month	9[illegible]
2 months	8¾-8½	2 months	9¼
3 months	8⅞-8⅝	3 months	9½
6 months	8[illegible]-8[illegible]	6 months	9[illegible]

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9¼-9	7 months	9¾-9½
2 months	9¼-9⅛	8 months	9¾-9½
3 months	9¼-9⅛	9 months	9¾-9½
4 months	9½-9¼	10 months	9¾-9½
5 months	9½-9¼	11 months	9¾-9½
6 months	9½-9¼	12 months	9¾-9½

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	8⅞-8¾	6 months	9½-9¼
3 months	9¼-9	12 months	9¾-9½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8⅝	3 months	9
7 days	8½	6 months	9¼
1 month	9	1 year	9[illegible]

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 9½-8½ Close 5

1 week	8½-8⅜	6 months	9½-9[illegible]
1 month	9-8⅞	9 months	9[illegible]-9[illegible]
3 months	9[illegible]-9[illegible]	12 months	10-9⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 9[illegible] 6 months 9½

Finance House Base Rate 9%

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

	Market rates (day's range) May 3	Market rates (close) May 3	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4005-1.4120	$1.4095-1.4105	0.26-0.27c disc	0.74-0.76c disc
Montreal	$1.8080-1.8180	$1.8160-1.8170	0.28-0.34c disc	0.86-0.96c disc
Amsterdam	4.28¾-4.31½fl	4.30½-4.31½fl	1⅛-1¼c prem	3½-3 c prem
Brussels	77.60-78.20f	78.05-78.15f	16-22c disc	47-55c disc
Copenhagen	13.95-14.03k	14.01½-14.02½k	12-10ore prem	229-350ore disc
Dublin	1.2430-1.2454p	1.2460-1.2470p	22-29p disc	51-64p disc
Frankfurt	3.80½-3.83½m	3.82¾-3.83¾m	1⅛-1⅞pf prem	3¼-2⅞pf prem
Lisbon	192.50-194.50e	194.00-194.50e	117-309c disc	380-930c disc
Madrid	214.00-215.50p	215.15-215.35p	129-149c disc	430-455c disc
Milan	2354-2371lr	2368½-2370½lr	11-14lr disc	37-40lr disc
Oslo	10.83-10.90k	10.88½-10.89½k	375-470ore disc	1089-1180ore disc
Paris	11.69-11.75f	11.73½-11.74½f	3¼-4¼c disc	9½-11¼c disc
Stockholm	11.21-11.30k	11.28½-11.29½k	84-180ore disc	352-465ore disc
Tokyo	317-320½y	319¾-320¾y	0.81-0.70y prem	2.37-2.18y prem
Vienna	26.73-26.95sch	26.93-26.98sch	6-3gro prem	17-12gro prem
Zurich	3.14-3.17½f	3.16½-3.17½f	1½-1¼c prem	4¼-3⅞c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was up 0.1 at 80.1.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

*Ireland	1.1272-1.1279
+Canada	1.2891-1.2894
Netherlands	3.0610-3.0620
Belgium	55.35-55.40
Denmark	9.9500-9.9600
West Germany	2.7195-2.7205
Portugal	137-137
Spain	152.65-152.75
Italy	1682-1684
Norway	7.7275-7.7375
France	8.3400-8.3500
Sweden	8.0025-8.0125
Japan	226.55-226.65
Austria	19.12-19.13
Switzerland	2.2480-2.2490

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.7758-0.7761

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

(%) calls, 9⅞-10¼; seven days, 10⅛-10⅜; one month, 10⅝-10¾; three months, 11-11⅛; six months, 11¼-11⅜.

OTHER MARKETS

Australia	1.5080-1.5150
Bahrain	0.5270-0.5310
Finland	8.0585-8.0985
Greece	149.00-151.00
Hongkong	10.9550-11.0050
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4115-0.4155
Malaysia	3.2010-3.2310
Mexico	225-250
New Zealand	2.1250-2.1450
Saudi Arabia	4.9250-4.9650
Singapore	2.9150-2.9450
South Africa	1.7540-1.7690

GOLD

Gold fixed: am, $376.30 (an ounce); pm, $378.50; close, $379.00-379.50 (£269.25-269.75).
Krugerrand* (per coin): $389.00-390.50 (£276.50-277.50).
Sovereigns* (new): $89-90 (£63.25-64.00).
* Excludes VAT

COMMODITIES



THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Fletcher must rethink his bankruptcy bill

If Mr Alex Fletcher, the trade minister responsible for the White Paper on insolvency law reform, had any doubts about the deterrent effect of his proposals on outside directors' willingness to sit on the boards of risky companies, they were convincingly dispelled at an Institute of Directors conference held yesterday. The conference was entitled unambiguously: *New legislative threats to directors.*

A delegate from the venture capital arm of the Midland Bank revealed that lawyers had advised it not to put representatives on the boards of client companies in future for fear they might be automatically disqualified should these companies fail. The effect could be most serious in the case of management buyouts, which are prone to failure in the first six months and therefore most in need of independent boardroom advice.

Civil servants starting to work their way through the flood of late representations on the White Paper will now revise their thoughts.

The White Paper has rightly tried to counter abuses by introducing automatic disqualification of directors whose companies go into compulsory, as opposed to voluntary, liquidation. It would also widen the scope of the concept of wrongful trading, which will be able to incur penalties of disqualification for up to 15 years as well as personal liability for a company's debts.

Clearly, the Government will need to tighten up the definition of wrongful trading, especially on the question of when it is "to the detriment of creditors"; for a company on the brink of insolvency (another new definition needed) to continue trading.

The biggest problem for directors, though, is that under the terms of the White Paper, they may each take responsibility for collective board decisions that lead to wrongful trading, even if they dissent. They cannot get out of this by resigning. To make matters worse, liability will be based not on fault, but on what the directors know "or can reasonably be expected to know".

The best compromise may be to substitute in the Bill another well-known legal test of "consent, connivance or neglect". It could then be made clear to directors that they must register dissent clearly in company minutes if they want to avoid unfair penalties and refute any charge of neglect by holding regular board meetings at which, say, key monthly figures for the company are also written into the record.

However, the institute may well have won its battle to stop the DHSS extracting a company's unpaid National Insurance contributions directly from individual company directors regardless of their blame or, indeed, the possibility of taking these sums from an insolvent company's remaining assets. Mr Norman Fowler is reviewing this Draconian practice. The likelihood is that, in future, directors may only be personally liable if they are guilty of wrongful trading under the proposed new Bill.

A fair question to ask of BP

A shareholder at BP's annual meeting yesterday asked a question about "strained relations" between the company and its American subsidiary, Sohio. The question appeared to be prompted in part by a note in this column on April 11, which readers may recall reported that BP was thinking hard and long about ways of improving relationships with the cash-rich and still independently minded US company. In reply Sir Peter Walters, the BP chairman, said he was "astonished" to read the story. Possibly he was "astonished" by its accuracy, although that was not the impression he conveyed.

Adding insult to injury, or perhaps attempting to take away credit where credit was due, he claimed that the story was "a direct copy" of a piece that had appeared in the European edition of the Wall Street Journal. True he lost his own footing at this point: a boardroom colleague had to point out that the "original" was in the *International Herald Tribune*, not the *WSJ*.

Sir Peter and I normally get along very well, and to be fair, his chief concern might have been to dispel any suggestion of a rift between BP and Sohio.

Whether or not there is a rift between the two companies is neither particularly interesting nor of prime importance. Nor was it something I suggested had occurred. All I pointed out, based on guidance from impeccable sources, was that there was a faction on the BP board which regarded it as important to give BP closer and more effective control over the running of Sohio. This is something that many in the City regard as overdue.

At the risk of being accused further of plagiarism, I cannot help pointing out that Sir Peter, in an interview in an American business magazine this week, acknowledges that there is indeed "a germ of truth" in reports that BP is planning to take a more active role in Sohio

Any dealings with Sohio are bound to be sensitive, not least because of the need to protect the interests of Sohio's minority shareholders. I am only sorry that he should seek to use *The Times* as a whipping boy simply for raising the same pertinent questions which his own boardroom colleagues are asking. Shareholders deserve better than that.

'The Times' Budget briefing

Bank chairmen – Sir Jeremy Morse is the latest to do so – have been drawing vivid attention to the impact of this year's Budget changes as they affect the treatment of deferred taxation. As everyone now agrees, Mr Nigel Lawson's first Budget is the most significant exercise in tax change, particularly for companies, since Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister. A new tax structure is taking shape and the repercussions are difficult to exaggerate.

To help directors, treasurers, professional advisers and investors of every kind to evaluate the Budget measures and to guide them in making the best practical responses, *The Times* has organized a special briefing at the Dorchester Hotel in London on Tuesday, May 22.

A distinguished panel of experts will speak on methods of corporate financing in the new tax environment, tax treatment of individuals, investing under the new tax rules and the best ways of remunerating and motivating senior employees. All the main tax proposals will be put into their proper perspectives.

The principal speaker will be Mr John Moore, MP., Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who with the Chancellor of the Exchequer was chiefly concerned with the corporate and income tax changes which figured so prominently in the Budget.

Anyone who missed the advertisements in *The Times* or who may want more information before sending in application forms, may like to telephone this number: 01-405 3501.

Shell UK to lead £550m gas field expansion

By David Young and Philip Robinson

Shell UK and BP, Britain's top two oil companies. yesterday revealed expansion plans which will mean security of 40.000 jobs for the one and record spending and substantial dividends for the other.

Shell UK will head a consortium which is to spend £550m developing two North Sea gas fields, with more than 70 per cent of the work involved being placed in Britain, giving job security to an estimated 40,000 workers.

The chairman of BP, Sir Peter Walters, promised shareholders at the annual meeting a record £2,000m was being spent on improving and expanding the business this year. He said they would benefit from the financial success of the group and added that the British North Sea has a great future for the group and the nation.

The Shell project was approved yesterday by Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Minister of State for Energy. He said: "The capital expenditure will provide subsantial opportunities for our offshore supplies industry to bid for contracts".

The field, Sean South and Sean North lie 66 miles off the Norfolk coast in water 98 feet deep. They will come on stream in mid-1986 and will be capable of feeding up to 600 million cubic feet of natural gas per day into the British Gas network.

Their development will involve the construction of three platforms with a fourth being needed in the mid-1990 to house compression equipment needed when the field's natural pressure drops.

It is expected that a total of 425 billion cubic feet of gas will be recovered from the fields. It will be brought ashore at Bacton on the Norfolk coast via a new 60 mile-long pipeline.

Contracts worth £33m have already been placed for design work, management and structural and pipeline steel. By the end of this year a further £100m worth of bids for equipment and service will have been sought.

Contracts placed include fabrication of two well-head jackets by RGC at Methil in Fife, structural steel from British Steel and specialized pipeline steel from Japan, design of the platform by McDermott Engineering and pipeline design by Brown and Root. Other contracts have been placed for the operation of a shore base in Norfolk and for the detailed design for the living accommodation aboad the platforms.

The two fields will be operated by Shell UK although Esso, Britoil and Union Texas Petroleum each have an equal 25 per cent share.

They will be used as reserve supplies to meet sudden upsurges in demand during the winter months.

Meanwhile at BP, Sir Peter said that he plans to develop four new gas fields in the southern North Sea which should yield nearly as much energy, at comparable cost, as the Magnus field, brought onstream last year.

He said that the past two or three years had not been easy for BP but it has now overcome many of its problems and has vastly increased financial strength.

"Against this background, I look forward to a continuation in 1984 of the improved results which our restructuring and cost savings have started to bring us", he said.

NCR chief tops US pay league

By Our City Editor

A survey by *Business Week*, the American magazine, shows that the 25 highest-paid executives in the US all earned more than £1.5m last year, including the value of stock options cashed in.

Top was Mr William Anderson of NCR, the cash register group, with $13.2m (£9.4m). But that was modest compared with the best paid a year ago, Mr Frederick Smith, of Federal Express, who collected $51.5m.

However, only $1m of Mr Anderson's income came from salary and bonuses. The rest arose from exercising options, a widespread practice recently because of the strength of the Wall Street stock market. The magazine points out that US companies are putting a higher priority than before on giving options.

The biggest yearly salary in the survey was the $2m received by Mr David Tendler, co-chairman of Phibro-Salomon, the financial group. He also cashed options worth $4.8m.

Base rates under pressure

By Frances Williams
Economics Correspondent

Interest rates in the London money markets moved up another notch yesterday, increasing the pressure at the banks to raise their base lending rates to 9 per cent.

The key three-month interbank deposit rate – which closely reflects variations in the bank's cost of raising money – increased by about ⅛ of a per cent to 9⅛ per cent, well above the prevailing level of base rates. Barclays base rate now stands at 8¾ per cent and the other leading banks at 8½ per cent.

The present level of market interest rates is imposing a severe squeeze on the clearer's margins on lending, at a time when Budget tax changes and Third World debt problems are also eating into profits.

But the banks are likely to wait until publication of next Tuesday's money supply figures before making any move. If they are poor, as the City seems to expect, a base rate increase may be unavoidable.

The upward trend in interest rates has been triggered by rising American interest rates and the dollar's recent strenght, coupled with worries over the miners' strike and rapid monetary growth in Britain.

Phillips & Drew, the stockbrokers, predict today that excessive money growth will force the authorities to raise interest rates later this year. The brokers expect base rates to be 9.5 per cent by the end of the year.

Sir Nicholas Goodison (right) with Mr David Steen, chairman of the Stock Exchange traded option committee at the Stock Exchange launch (Photograph, John Manning).

Exchanges introduce rival index contracts

By William Kay, City Editor

The contrast between the Stock Exchange and its brash young cousin, the London Financial Futures Exchange, could not have been more marked yesterday, when they introduced rival contracts based on the FT-SE 100-share index.

The Stock Exchange was launching a traded option on the index, enabling investors to take a view on whether the market would go up or down in the next few months, at the rate of £5 a point. Losses are limited to the size of the investment.

Liffe, which itself began life only 18 months ago, was offering a much more sophisticated futures contract aimed solely at professionals and institutions wishing to hedge their portfolios.

Here the investor buys or sells the index at the ruling price, leaving himself open to possibly infinite profits or losses, depending on how it moves.

At 9.35am, a slightly self-conscious Sir Nichoas Goodison, doctor of architecture and Stock Exchange chairman, waded through a respectful throng on the stock market floor to make the first deal. He bought two options on the June 1150 contract at a premium of 14p a point.

In theory that implied that Sir Nicholas thought the index would rise to at least 1164 by June. In practice, his investment of £140 was simply saying that he believed other investors would be prepared to pay a premium of more than 14p. And, by the close of business yesterday, he was right: he could have sold for 16p.

That done, Sir Nicholas strode across Threadneedle Street to Liffe, where he was due to start the trading in the new contract by ringing a bell

By the time he arrived, the FT-SE pit on the trading floor was crammed with dealers, some of whom could not resist beginning to trade before the official "off" at 9.45am.

Sir Nicholas was preparing to say a few words to mark the moment. But he made the mistake of ringing the bell first. At that, pandemonium ensued. Traders, clad in multicoloured blazers to identify them, began waving their arms and shrieking numbers at one another, led by some Chicagoans attached to Smith Bros, the jobbing firm. Sir Nicholas made a graceful retreat.

SE inquiry into Martin

The Stock Exchange is to investigate the rise in the share price of Martin the Newsagent ahead of the unwanted £34m bid from W. H. Smith.

W. H. Smith denied yesterday that there had been a leak from its side and confirmed that it had bought no shares in Martin. The investigation was requested by Martin, but the Stock Exchange said it would have checked anyway.

Meanwhile, Martin's shares were trading between 275p and 280p against the bid value of 260p in expectation of a higher offer, either from W. H. Smith or from another suitor.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1141.6 up 1.5
(Day's high: 1142.8; low 1137.4)
FT Index: 922.8 up 3.4
FT Gilts: 81.40 down 0.13
Bargains: 23,993
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 117.16 up 1.0
New York: Dow Jones Average:
(latest) 1178.08 up 7.33
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index
11,019.09 down 2.81
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
1034.73 down 2.33
Amsterdam: 174.5 up 0.3
Sydney: AO Index: 767.5 up 6.4
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index:
1047.4 up 0.3
Brussels: General Index: 155.75
down 0.36
Paris: CAC Index: 181.7 up 3.5
Zurich: SKA General: 318.00 up
1.40

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4100 up 1.15 cents
Index 80.1 up 0.1
DM 3.8275 up 0.0075
FrF 11.74 up 0.0250
Yen 319.75 up 1.50
Dollar
Index 129.8 up 0.3
DM 2.7160 down 0.0135
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4140
Dollar DM 2.7042
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.585716
SDR £0.748090

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9
Discount market loans week fixed 8⅝
3 month interbank 9³⁄₁₆ - 9¹⁄₁₆
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11 - 11⅛
3 month DM 5¾ - 5⅝
3 month Fr F 12⅝ - 12½
US rates
Bank prime rate 12.00
Fed funds 10⁷⁄₁₆
Treasury long bond 93¹⁄₁₆ - 93⅛
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 4, 1984 to May 1, 1984, inclusive: 8.934 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $378.30 pm $378.50
close $379-379.50 (£269.25-269.75)
New York (latest): $379.75
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$389-390.50 (£276.50-277.50)
Sovereigns (new):*
$89-90 (£63.25-64)
*Excludes VAT

Refuge lifts merchant bank stake

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

Refuge Assurance is increasing its stake in the small merchant bank Leopold Joseph from 10.7 per cent to 29.99 per cent. It is also injecting £2.5m of new capital in the form of subordinated debt as a prelude to the two companies working together to develop financial services.

This latest development in the shake-up of City institutions will help to safeguard the independence of Leopold Joseph, which has been at the centre of takeover speculation for some time. But the deal met a cool response in the stock market, where Refuge shares were marked down 20p to 463p.

Refuge Assurance, with premium income of £100m in 1983 and total assets of more than £1 billion, specializes in selling life assurance to the bottom end of the market. Its blue-collar clientele is a far cry from that of Leopold Joseph, whose activities include managing investment portfolios of more than £100,000

Refuge, a long-time shareholder in the merchant bank, is buying additional shares from West German state banks. The rest of their stake is going to Scottish American Investment Co which will hold 10.37 per cent.

The price of the share sale is not being disclosed. The two German banks originally paid 350p a share in 1974. Yesterday Leopold Joseph rose 10p to 303p and there is speculation the German banks received a premium over the market price.

£52m Tricentrol sell-off

Tricentrol, the oil, gas and mineral exploration company whose first quarter profits almost halved this year, has sold its American onshore operations to Wintershall, part of BASF, for $73m (£52.1m).

The deal, which excludes Tricentrol's Montana gas fields, is made up of properties estimated to have gross proven and probable reserves of 7.4 million barrels of oil equivalent, and a bank of 418,800 undeveloped acres.

As a result, Tricentrol has written off almost $67m, but says that the reduction of interest costs after completion of the deal is estimated to exceed the net income from the properties being sold for many years, and there will be a sustained benefit to future earnings from America.

As a result of the sale, Mr Arnold Brackenridge will join Wintershall and will retire as president of Tricentrol's North American operations

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tarmac in £28m deal with Beazer

CH Beazer, the west country builder, is raising £28m with the sale of a company it bought less than three years ago for £4m after a bitter takeover battle.

Westbrick, Britain's fifth biggest brickmaker, is being bought by Tarmac Roadstone for £20.6m in cash plus dividends and loan stock repayments.

Last year Westbrick made profits of £2.3m

● **COMPUTER AND** System Engineering, the data communications company, increased pretax profits to £4.1m last year, compared with £1.7m for the previous 15 months. Turnover rose from £29.3m to £37.2m. The final dividend of 2.74p makes 4.1p for the year against the equivalent of 3.15p last time.

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● **UNEMPLOYMENT** is likely to rise to 3.5 million by 1988 even is output grows rapidly because many new jobs will be taken by people now outside the lanbour force, Simon & Coates, the stockbrokers, predict today. The London Business School, by contrast, expects unemployment to fall to 2.5 million by 1987.

● **SIR MONTY** Finniston was incorrectly referred to in *The Times* of April 26 as chairman of the Drake & Scull engineering group. He relinquished the post in September 1983 and the company's present chairman and chief executive is Mr Lionel T. Bugler.

Bank gets to grips with US problems

Midland may bid for Crocker minority

From Nick Gilbert, New York

Fighting to restore the fortunes of Croker National, the ailing American bank controlled by Midland Bank, has been "like going 15 rounds with the world heavyweight champion", said Mr John Harris, chief executive of Midland's international division, yesterday. He has been sent to San Francisco to tackle Crocker's problems.

Mr Harris and Mr Frank Cahouet, recentley brought in at vast expense from Security Pacific, have been making drastic cuts.

"Frank and I make an excellent team. We've taken it on the chin pretty hard recently. But now we are reducing salary levels, deferring pay increases, striving to boost the bank's non-interest income and working long hours handling our difficult loans. But it's hard in the residential market to find buyers at the moment."

He said that Midland was considering bidding for the minority stake in Crocker. Taking full control would increase the management's flexibility in dealing with Crocker's creaking loan portfolio and remove Crocker, an increasingly embarrassing problem for Midland, from the public eye.

In an exclusive interview with *The Times*, Mr Harris said: "Any sensible management is looking at all possibilities – we can stay as we are, get out or take out the whole lot".

But he dismissed London speculation that Midland has had an offer for its 57 per cent Crocker holding which suggests bidding for the remaining minority is a more likely outcome. "As far as I know, Midland has received no such offer and it has not in any way suggested it would be interested in receiving such an offer. Despite the recent difficulties Crocker forms the centre-piece in Midland's global strategy".

Buying the minority would cost Midland $217m (£155m) compared with the $800m it has sunk in its unprofitable Californian subsidiary. The British parent bought in at prices ranging from $50 to $90 a share, but after a series of disastrous losses Crocker's price has sunk to $23 on the New York Stock Exchange.

Midland's stake is worth $288m but, in Mr Harris's view, that is less relevant than the fact that the bank consolidates the Crocker offshoot. He estimates Crocker's book value at $52 a share, so buying the minority has an obvious appeal in improving Midland's overall balance sheet.

And the very presence of Mr Harris is vivid testimony to Midland's about face on its earlier non-interference policy towards Crocker and its US management.

Burdened by a sagging portfolio of upmarket real estate loans – many on luxury apartments Crocker has been forced to repossess – and non-performing agricultural lending to the Californian wine industry, Crocker last year lost $10m after providing for possible loan losses of $130m.

Sine then Crocker has revealed a first quarter loss of a record $121 million dollars after a further $140m provision, and the bank, like others, has yet to face further possible losses on larger loans to Argentina.

Mr Harris appears much less optimistic than in March when he hinted that Crocker would return to profitability this year.

"Anybody who expects a quick fix and a miracle, rapid turn-round knows nothing about business" he said. "We're trying to get a grip on affairs but problems won't be solved overnight, the real estate market in California will not recover fast."

Tax provision of £465m at Lloyds Bank

Lloyds Bank will have to make a £465m provision in its interim accounts because of the Budget tax changes affecting its leasing business, Sir Jeremy Morse, the chairman, told the annual meeting yesterday.

The bulk of the sum, £340m, is to cover deferred tax which was not provided for but will now have to be paid. The remaining £125m reflects the impact of tax variation clauses which have the effect of reducing rentals on some leasing contracts when tax rates fall. Lloyds has suffered much more than other big clearers

The provisions, which will be covered by transfers from reserves, will knock more than 1 percentage point off capital ratios, reducing the ratio of shareholders' funds to total assets from 6 to 4.8 per cent.

The Budget cost to the capital bases of the big four clearers now totals £1,895m, with Midland still to charge more because of the tax variation clauses.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

New strategy boosts M & S

By Michael Clark

Marks and Spencer, the high street retailer, celebrates its centenary this year and the directors were in the City yesterday explaining the group's strategy for the next ten years.

The venue was the offices of the stockbroker Williams de Broe, a fan of M & S for years. Apparently, the board is excited about its decision to open shops out of their traditional haunts and into the country. Some sites have been selected and the first may be announced this year.

M & S is considering inviting other retailers to share the sites, although a decision on which is some way off. The board's main drive is to increase floor space and make the most out of the existing stores by improving efficiency.

The new credit card will give credit in the true sense of the word and customers will pay interest if debts are not paid back immediately.

Clothing is expected to lose floor space to household goods, but M & S will aiming for a younger market – particularly those under-25.

Williams de Broe expects sales growth to be maintained in double figures, helped by the increased sales space. The M & S board remains "bullish" about current year prospects, but Williams de Broe's estimate for pretax profits of £330m against £279m is still some way below other market estimates and it regards the shares as already fully valued. The price advanced 4p to 265p after yesterday's lunch, only 6p short of the year's high.

The rest of the equity market made another cautious start before resuming its record breaking run. The prospect of more interest rate rises on both sides of the Atlantic continued to trouble investors. Dealers also feared some gloomy money supply figures next week, adding pressure on the banks and building societies to increase rates.

Once again it was left to specialist situations and takeovers to provide the interest. As a result the FT Index soon perked up and closed 3.4 higher at another record – this time of 922.8. The FT-SE 100 also attracted support closing up 1.5 at 1141.6 as dealings started in the traded options market in the index with more than 2,000 contracts reported by midday.

Gilts spent another lacklustre day overshadowed by the gloom on the economic front and the continued strength of the dollar on foreign exchanges. Dealings in the new "tap" Treasury 9½ per cent 1989 proved disappointing with the stock closing £¼ discount on the partly paid price of £50. Dealers estimate that only £200m of the original £1,000m had been applied for.

The rest of the gilt market showed scattered losses of up to £¼ at the longer end in quiet trade, while in shorts the falls were restricted to £1/16. The FT Government Securities Index lost 0.13 to close at a six-month low of 81.40.

Clearing banks spent another nervous session with **Lloyds Bank** dipping 10p to 619p after confirmation of the amount being sent aside for deferred tax. **Barclays** fell 5p to 492p, **Midland** 2p to 402p and **National Westminster** 3p to 667p.

Among leaders **Imperial Group** rose 4p to 166p still reflecting the bullish comments on the sector by the broker de Zoete & Bevan this week. There is also talk of another bullish circular due out shortly and dealers reported big turnover in the traded options market.

Elsewhere among blue chips **Grand Metropolitan** rose 2p to 360p after a buy recommendation from the broker Pember & Boyle, which forecasts a jump of 25 per cent in pretax profits at the halfway stage this year. Pember is forecasting a final outcome of £350m for the year against £295.2m last time and £404m for 1985.

GKN continued to benefit from a seminar with the institutions this week, rising 6p to 204p, while **Turner & Newall** again reflected chart buying with a 4p rise to 101p.

On the bid front, **Martin the Newsagent** climbed another 18p to 278p after the rejection of the surprise £33m bid from **W. H. Smith**. The group has asked the Stock Exchange to hold an inquiry over last week's burst of activity in the share price which clearly signalled the approach of the bid.

Meanwhile, **C. H. Beazer** responded with a rise of 26p to 426p after selling off its building materials side, it acquired with Westbrick, to Tarmac for £20m. Beazer floated off part of one of its subsidiaries on the Unlisted Securities Market this year because it felt the group, which made sonar domes for ships and aircraft, did not fit in with its traditional business.

In oils, **BP** spurted 7p to 523p after a confident statement by the chairman at the annual meeting. Later, the board met analysts to discuss prospects.

The restructuring at **Southend Stadium** continued apace when **GRA Group**, the ruling body of greyhound racing, announced it had sold 501,000 shares, reducing its stake by 1 per cent to 19.63 per cent. This week, Mr Jim Slater's **Yelverton Investments** confirmed it now owned 900,000 shares, or 17 per cent of the total.

GRA responded to the news with a rise of 2p to 69p, while Southend advanced 3p to 62p. Observers of Southend appeared excited by the restructuring and believe it could be the prelude to a redevelopment of Southend's property portfolio. This might include the development of a super store.

Tate & Lyle made little headway despite a bumper set of interim figures from Redpath Industries, its North American money spinner. The shares dipped to 403p, before closing unchanged at 413p on rumours of a £10m loss from its sugar trading activities. The broker Wood Mackenzie is sceptical of the rumours and says any loss on sugar trading is unlikely to affect its forecast for the half-year of £30m against £20.7m. For the full year, Wood Mac is looking for pretax profits of £76m against £57.3m last time and says the price weakness represents an excellent buying opportunity.

The prospect of higher interest rates and the continuing strength of the dollar on the foreign exchange meant another uneventful day for the price of gold. Only the appearance of some cheap Continental support enabled the price of the precious metal to close 75 cents abve its previous level at $378.50.

Gold shares closed mixed with **Doornfontein** rising $½ to $18 and **Durban** $¼ to $22 at the dear end, while **Kloof** lost $½ at $36½ and **President Brand** a similar amount

Equity turnover on May 2 was £327.1£22m (21,470 bargains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded was 186.7 million. Gilt bargains totalled 2,882.

● **A. and G. Security Electronics:** The purchase in 1983 of the business of carters of Burnley was affected by an issue of 5p shares at a premium of £1,372,000, which was credited to the company's share premium account.

● **Robert Fleming and Co** announced that 7,000 yen (£22.2m) has been raised on behalf of its associate, Jardine Fleming Management Inc, for a new closed-ended unit trust called JF Japan Venture I. Twenty leading institutions, mainly from Britain, have subscribed funds to be invested in Japan's emerging venture capital industry.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar encountered some profit-taking on quiet foreign exchange markets. Although still maintaining a firm undertone on continuing high US interest rates, there was some light selling in advance of the latest US money supply figures due out later in the day.

Although the demand was small, sterling spent a satisfactory session closing 1.15 cents higher at 1.4100 while its trade weighted index at 80.1 dealers said sharply higher British money market rates, and persisting talk of higher bank base rates supported the pound, which also made headway at the expense of leading European currencies.

The Deutsche mark, still unsettled by the possibility of strike action in West Germany, fell to 3.8220 from 3.8160 overnight.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates accelerated along the upward path they have been taking this week. At the longer end, they were up about a quarter of a point.

In active trading, the inter-bank rates had been higher still at one stage, but they came off the top a little in the afternoon before turning up again towards the close to finish on a rising note.

Talk of a base rate increase intensified, especially after one leading stockbroker advocated a big jump to 10 per cent.

Rates on sterling certificates of deposit followed suit, but not seeing the volume of busines that was going on in "clean" money.

Local authorities were pretty active in some periods: mainly out to three months.

Sales surge at Cadbury Schweppes

Sales of Cadbury Schweppes products this year are ahead of last time partly through good Easter chocolate sales and the effect of the unseasonably warm weather on demand for soft drinks.

Sir Adrian Cadbury, the chairman, told shareholders yesterday at the annual meeting that he expected the company to meet all "the challenging objectives" set for 1984.

He said the new Wispa chocolate bar was ahead of its sales targets and the new carbonated apple juice was also selling well.

Shareholders formally approved the forthcoming offer of shares to American investors via the over-the-counter market. The shares being offered in the United States market price account for 12 per cent of the total equity and will be traded in the form of American depositary receipts.

● S. SIMPSON: The comany announced an interim dividend of 1.5 per ordinary and "A" ordinary (1.3125p) share for the half year to January 31. Turnover was £16m, op from £13.1m with pretax profit at £594,000 (£373,000).

● HOME CHARM: Over 97 per cent of the £17,018,527 7 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1997/2004 offered by way of rights has been taken up. Stock not taken up has been sold and the excess will be distributed to those entitled.

● TRINIDAD AND TABAGO ALLOTMENTS: Applications for £107m nominal of the stock for sale have been received.

● HIGHCROFT INVESTMENT TRUST: Final dividend for 1983 was 2.1p making 3.5p (3.15p) for 1983. The pretax profit was £297,000 and tax came to £132,000.

● ABERDEEN CONSTRUCTION GROUP: Final 4.4p making 6.5p (8p) for 1983. Group turnover £88.034m (£86.083m). Pretax profit £5.236m (£4.896m). Tax £2.325m (£2.069m). Deferred tax ajourned £1.769m (nil). Attributable profit £4.68m (£2.825m). Shares 196p, down 4p.

● Scott and Robertson: The group has declared a final dividend of 1.25p, making 2p (0.75p) for the 44 weeks to December 31 last (52 weeks to February 25 last). Turnover rose to £17.7m (£17.5m) with pretax profit at £785,000 (£92,000). Shares slipped to 83p, down 3p.

TEMPUS

The word is Case, but be careful

These days, Computer and Systems Engineering (Case as it is affectionately known) can do nothing wrong in the eyes of the stock market. Only 18 months ago things were very different. It was painfully extricating itself from an unfortunate deal to distribute US-made word processors, incurring hefty losses in the process. But after yesterday's results the share price roared ahead another 20p to 820p. It has gone so high that the company has had to put together a scrip issue which should bring the price back towards the 200p mark.

The results were announced a month earlier than expected to fit in with the purchase of Rixon, a US company in a similar field. Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares, placed with institutions last month at 650p. As part of the deal, because the issue would have diluted current shareholdings by around 30 per cent, half the placings must be offered back to existing shareholders. The full details will be issued shortly but the price will again be 650p offering the chance to make an instant 170p at existing prices. It is too good an opportunity to turn down.

While all the short-term omens for Case appear favourable it must be remembered that life in the highly competitive and constantly changing data communications market is never certain. The potential to succeed and make progress is balanced by the chances of rapid and crippling failure. Case's investment in Rixon is part of a planned campaign to expand its US market share, but at a cost of £22m the investment demands subsantial returns to pay its way.

Even though Case improved its gross margins by 3 per cent this year and hopes to do better, any investment in it must be reviewed with the constant and careful attention which this volatile sector demands.

Tokyo Dow

The Japanese have their own version of "Sell in May and go away", which freely translated into English comes out as "Take profits in Golden Week" – the early May holiday period when the country, for once, relaxes. But this year could be the exception that proves the rule. On Wednesday, and right in the middle of Golden Week, the Tokyo Dow Jones hit a record 11,105, after jumping 86 points on the day. The talk now, at least among London brokers covering the Tokyo market, is for further contra-cyclical advances throughout the month, and perhaps continued strength in the market for most of the summer.

A number of factors account for the surge of optimism. In the past, the push to stock market prices has come from the foreigner, with domestic institutions treating their portfolios more cautiously. This year, the position has reversed. Foreigners have been net sellers recently, but domestic Japanese institutions have carried on buying. Now overseas traders are expected to swing back into the market, reversing their earlier caution.

The markets are sloshing around with cash, and with the results season for companies with March year-ends about to open, all selling may be deferred. Tokyo's continued strength against the mercurial performance of Wall Street has been reassuring.

Perhaps the only genuine note of caution abroad in the market comes from the margin position, which hit Yen 2.7 trillion on April 14, the fifth consecutive weekly rise.

But, as Grieveson Grant points out in its weekly Japanese review, the average rate of decline during the five adjustments experienced in the current bull market is only 3.63 per cent, putting a downside risk on the market of perhaps only 500 points.

The Japanese economy, as ever, is bounding ahead. March output showed a small fall, but February figures were revised upwards. Export volumes in the first quarter were ahead by 15 per cent, as the visible trade balance hit a record $10bn surplus, well on target for a full year current account surplus of $30bn. The monetary aggregates slightly overshot the Bank of Japan's target growth rate in the first quarter, but fiscal policy, theoretically, is tighter, given the austerity budget.

Among the brokers, Phillips and Drew feels that Nippon Blue Chips have been ignored in the general rally, and favours stocks like Canon, Nippon Kogaku, and Sony. De Zoete & Bevan is keen on Fujitsu, fast becoming a world leader in computer technology, whose 1983/84 profits, due shortly, should show a rise of a third, despite an historic multiple of 25, the shares look cheaper than Fujitsu's rival, NEC.

Finally, James Capel favours MEI, at around Yen 1990, after its first quarter results revealed a profits gain of 54 per cent, clear reflection of the group's increasing American penetration.

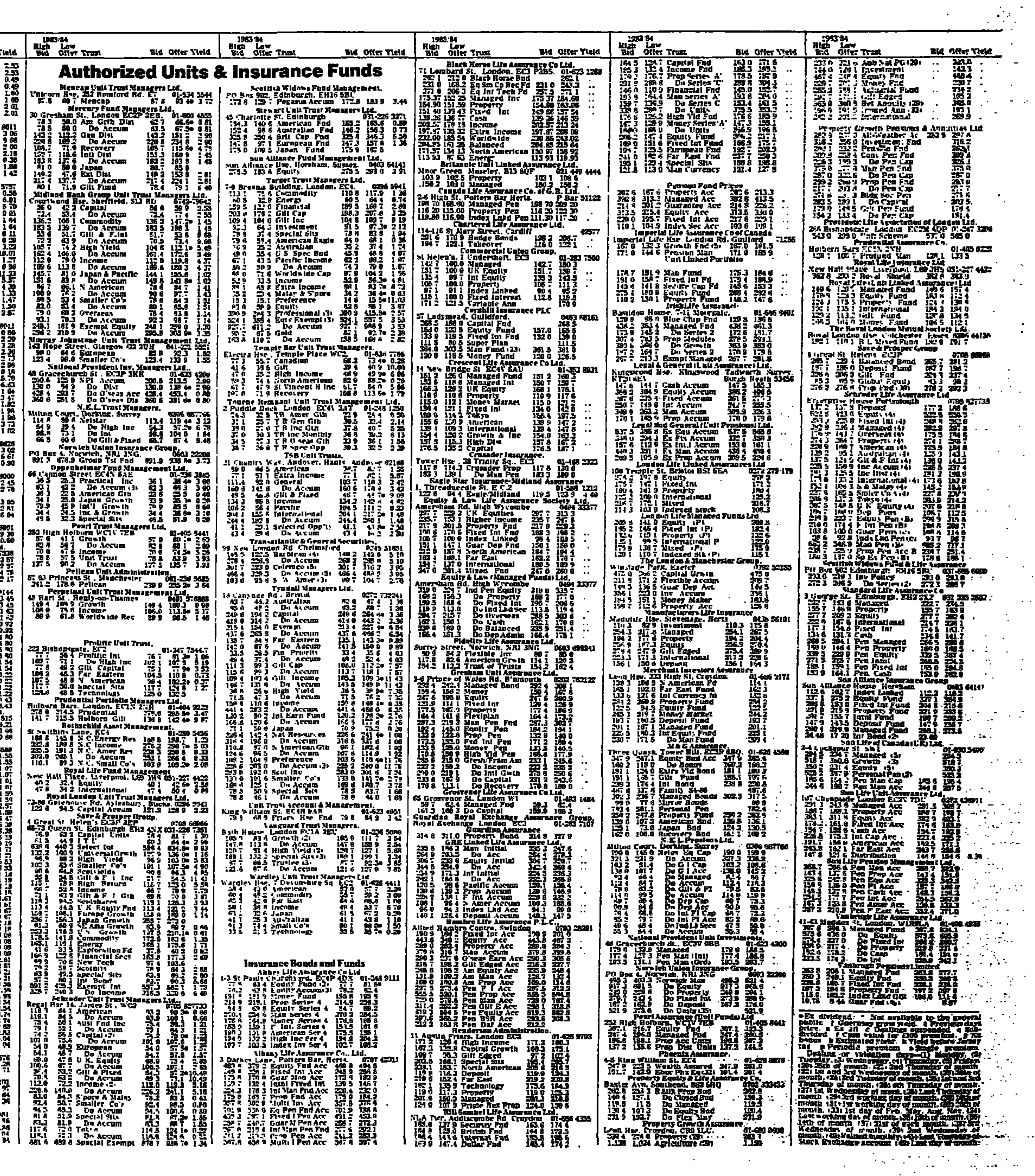
Norwich Union

There are encouraging noises from Norwich Union that the promise of a revival in the corporate debt market might have a little more substance to it than a mere expression of a worthy ideal. The company has earmarked £30m for investment in corporate mortgages and debentures this year. It spent virtually nothing in this sector last year.

The climate is now much more suited to corporate bonds, aided by the change in the Budget to put their tax treatment on a par with gilts, and companies are more willing to pay the interest rates which institutional investors are demanding. As long as the equity market maintains its present heights, the incentive to return to debt as a means of expansion finance will be enhanced.

Norwich Union is not afraid to take the initiative where other institutional investors have preferred to follow the competition. This is clearly demonstrated by its investment portfolio, which is split fairly evenly between property, equities and gilts.

The industry norm is to give much more prominence to gilts at the expense of equities. Norwich Union is now seeing the benefits of its departure from tradition as recent dividend payments by companies have increased. The trend seems to be for companies to increase payouts in an effort to overcompensate for the lean years of the recession and Norwich Union is more than happy with the yields it is now seeing.



Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts



APPOINTMENTS

Rippon for Singer & Friedlander

Britannia Arrow Holdings: Mr A. N. Solomons has been a made a director and a deputy chairman. After the completion of the acquisition of a controlling interest in Singer & Friedlander on April 30, Mr **Geoffrey Rippon, Mr K. P. Ney, Lord Lever of Manchester, Mr M. H. Newman, Mr S. A. Goldsmith** and **Mr P. C. Baker** have joined the board of that company.

Reed Stenhouse: Mr J. C. R. Bowman, while continuing as chief executive of Reed Stenhouse Energy, has become managing director of Reed Stenhouse Marketing. He also joins the board of Reed Stenhouse and Partners.

Clyde Cablevision: Mr John S. C. Morrish has been appointed finance director and company secretary.

Price Waterhouse: Mr P. E. Fallon, partner in the Dutch firm of Price Waterhouse, has been elected senior partner of the Price Waterhouse European firms.

Armitage Shanks Group: Mr Brian T. Foster, company secretary, has joined the board.

How tighter monetary policy is squeezing bank customers

John Cooper gives a banker's view of the changing relationship between banks and their business customers.

The banks have settled down reasonably comfortably since the passing of the Banking Act in 1979 under the new regime of prudential supervision. But contemporaneously with this change in their environment, British banks have also had to settle down with the consequences of a much more active monetary policy, specifically designed by the Government to impose tight corrective disciplines on industry and commerce.

Monetary policy, and particularly control of the money supply, has been a principal plank of economic policy and specifically in the fight against inflation. What may be less familiar is the particular role which the emphasis on monetary control has thrown on banking.

One of the characteristics of our present banking arrangements is that in the absence of any particular preferred pattern of allocation laid down by the head offices of banks, the Bank of England or anybody else, the exact allocation of credit between types of borrowers, for example, property developers and manufacturing industry, emerges as a by-product of hundreds of decisions taken every day by individual bankers.

Some exponents of the free-enterprise system describe this allocation of credit as being effected by the "hidden hand" of the market place, implying by their approval both that the allocation resulting from many thousands of credit decisions taken by individual bankers on purely commercial grounds is *prima facie* more likely to be beneficial to the economy at large than any other allocation.

There is a further clear implication that those who complain about the resultant allocation should take note that no individual, let alone government official, is responsible for that allocation, that there are therefore no ears for such complaints to fall on and that the complainants had better therefore accept the existing allocation as a simple fact of economic life.

While most practising bankers would probably approve of both these implications, they would nevertheless point out that, in practical terms, bankers are effectively the agents of the "hidden hand".

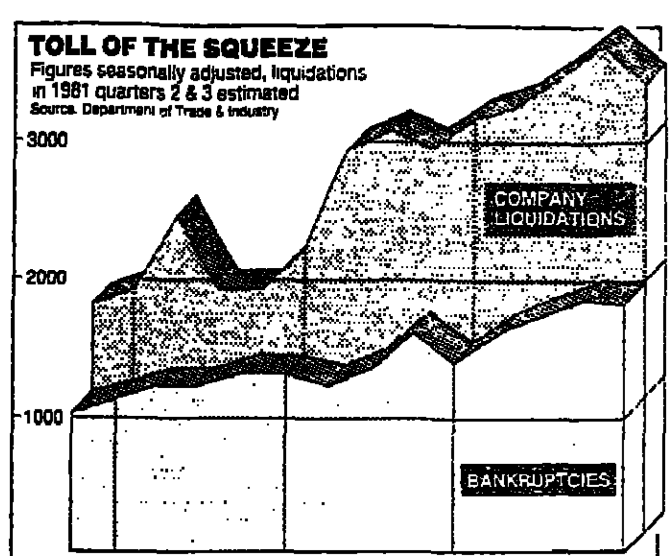
This role as the principal allocator of credit is one undertaken by commercial bankers, whatever the climate *of credit ease or credit squeeze*, with its attendant plaudits and abuses. The role becomes an even "hotter seat" at a time of credit stringency. This is partly, of course, because when credit is tight the bank manager is obliged to say "no" to far more propositions than when it is not.

However, the main characteristic of the recent prolonged period of monetary stringency is not so much that the banks

Bankers are agents of the 'hidden hand'

simply have not had the funds available to satisfy the demand from their customers; indeed, it has been a particular feature of the credit squeeze that banks *have not been specifically* rationed as to the amount of credit they can grant to their customers. It is rather that the stringent monetary conditions - unusually high interest rates in *both real and nominal* terms – – caused industrial and commercial companies to make substantially lower profits. This, in turn, had two effects. First, it meant that companies wishing *to borrow from their bankers* to make new investments on plant and equipment found themselves backing their requests for new credit with much less impressive cash flow forecasts *than either they or their bankers* would have expected a few years ago.

In other words, a tight money policy effected by high interest rates rather than a blanket limit on the funds available for loans from the banking system (as, for example, under the conditions of the "corset" until it was abandoned in June 1980) will have its effect on a bank manager's willingness to grant



new loans. It is not so much that he will be forced to say that he has no funds available as that the proposition appears to be insufficiently profitable for him to be clear that the loan will ever be repaid. This explains the apparent paradox that bankers insisted there was no shortage of credit for the credit worthy.

The second effect of higher interest and exchange rates and consequent lower profits has been even more devastating on the attitude of bank managers towards their customers. It is not that they are having to turn

Borrowers begin to look less creditworthy

down an increasing proportion of applications for new loans, but more that they are having to take a much more jaundiced view about those borrowers with existing loans.

This position is exacerbated by a background – otherwise wholly beneficial – of a falling rate of inflation. As bankers and borrowers learnt in the 1970s, a company whose cash flow forecasts would not justify additional borrowing on the basis of constant prices might well find that the sums work out much better if they are adjusted to take account of a reasonably high rate of inflation.

What bankers and borrowers are now learning is that a tight money policy followed by a reduction in price inflation will almost certainly result in individual and corporate borrowers looking a great deal less creditworthy than they did before the tight money policy was imposed, to the consequent discomfort of both parties.

For this reason, the 1980s so far have seen many examples of British companies whose credit rating, in the eyes of their bankers, had suddenly deteriorated fast and whose bankers, often with substantial existing loans outstanding to the borrowers concerned, were tempted suddenly to cry "not a penny more".

This experience has had a profound effect on the relationship between the banks and their borrowing customers. First, and inevitably, it has probably caused greater general tension between the two.

Second, and more constructively, it has caused bankers to become much more involved, not so much in the day-to-day *management of their borrowing* customers, but in the forward planning and strategy of those customers.

There have been many instances where bankers have made the increase or even continuation of their lending to a corporate borrower conditional on tough action being taken, – such as selling off unprofitable subsidiaries, or closing down uneconomic plants. Frustrating as this may appear to many borrowers, such decisions are much better taken before, rather than after, a bank calls in a receiver.

In the longer term, it is probably desirable for both bankers and borrowers that the bankers should continue to maintain their present close involvement in the strategic decisions of a company. For the bankers, such continuing involvement will make them much better qualified to make a proper assessment of applications for new loans and to give constructive advice to their borrowers.

For the borrowers, continuing close involvement in their business by their bankers should give some comfort that bankers will be less fickle and less likely to cry "not a penny more" than they have sometimes appeared to be in the past.

The author, a merchant banker, is a director of Singer & Friedlander. His book The Management and Regulation of Banks *has been published by Macmillan*

Star Computers to sell offshoot

The Star Computer group has agreed terms for and finalized the disposal of its wholly-owned subsidiary Roachward.

The aggregate value of the consideration for the disposal, together with the value of debts owing by Roachward to Star and a dividend in respect of year ended April 30 last, both to be paid upon completion, amounts to £550,000.

The value of Roachward's principal underlying assets was £650,000, being the value of its investment in finance leases.

The unaudited net profits attributable to the shares as on April 30 last were about £75,000.

Star will use the proceeds in increasing its working capital with benefits to its cash flow.

The proportion of Star's assets represented in this disposal is not believed significant.

● **J O WALKER AND CO:** The company has declared a final dividend of 3p making 4.5p (3.5p) for 1983. Turnover rose to £10.18m (£8.32m) with pretax profit up to £352,000 (£298,000).

● **HENDERSON GROUP:** The group has acquired Frontier Gate Company from its liquidator for £70,000. Frontier, whose failure has been attributed to cash flow problems arising from difficulties on two major contracts, is a manufacturer of security and traffic barriers, and its acquisition reflects a further important step in expansion of the product range marketed by Henderson's security division.

● **AULT AND WIBORG GROUP:** The group has sold the business and assets of its printing roller division to the Printing Roller Company, which is controlled by John Houghton, for a consideration of about £237,000. Profit before tax of the division in 1983 was about £33,000.

WALL STREET

	May 2	May 1
AMF Inc	15½	16⅛
AMR	35⅝	34½
Allied Chem	53⅝	53½
Allied Stores	44	42¾
Allis Chalmers	11⅝	11½
Alcoa	36½	35
Amax Inc	25¼	25½
Amerada Hess	32	32¼
Am Brands	56½	56½
Am Broadcast	58	58¼
Am Can	46⅝	48¼
Am Cyanamid	49¾	49¼
Am Elec Power	16⅝	16⅝
Am Home	55⅝	55⅞
Am Motors	5⅝	5¼
Am Nat Res	48½	48½
Am Standard	29⅞	29¼
Am Telephone	16½	16⅜
Armco Steel	10⅝	10¼
Asarco	29¾	29½
Ashland Oil	27⅜	27¼
Atlantic Richfield	48⅝	49⅜
Avco	27	26⅞
Avon Products	21⅜	21
Bankers Tst NY	43⅝	43⅞
Bank of America	18⅝	19⅞
Bank of Boston	36¼	35¼
Bank of NY	29¾	29⅞
Beatrice Foods	30½	30¼
Bethlehem Steel	25	25⅝
Boeing	38¼	38¼
Boise Cascade	40⅞	40¼
Borden	54	53¾
Borg Warner	20	20⅝
Bristol Myers	46½	46⅝
BP	28⅝	28¼
Burlington Ind	27	27⅜
Burlington Nthn	44⅝	44⅝
Burroughs	53¾	53
Campbell Soup	60¼	60⅞
Canadian Pacific	34⅜	34
Caterpillar	46⅞	46⅝
Celanese	74	72¾
Central Soya	16	16
Chase Manhat	49⅝	48⅞
Chem Bank NY	32⅞	32¼
Chrysler	25¾	26
Citicorp	34½	34⅝
Clark Equip	32½	32¼
Coca Cola	56⅞	56¼
Colgate	24¼	24⅞
CBS	73⅛	73¼
Columbia Gas	34⅞	34½
Combustion Eng	30¼	30⅜
Comwlth Edison	23	22½
Cons Edison	25	25
Cons Foods	28⅝	29
Cons Power	8⅝	8⅝
Continental Grp	38¼	36⅝
Control Data	32¼	31¼
Corning Glass	65¼	62⅞
CPC Intnl	37½	37½
Crane	35½	33⅞
Crocker Int	23¼	23⅞
Crown Zeller	34¼	34½
Dart & Kraft	74⅞	76¼
Deere	31¼	32½
Delta Air	35¼	34⅞
Detroit Edison	12⅝	12⅞
Disney	65	65¼
Dow Chemical	32¾	33
Dresser Ind	22¾	22½
Duke Power	24¼	24
Du Pont	51½	51
Eastern Air	5½	5½
Eastman Kodak	64½	61½
Eaton Corp	48⅞	48½
Esmark	45¾	44
Evans P D	6⅝	6½
Exxon Corp	42⅝	43
Fed Dept Stores	48¼	48¾
Firestone	17⅜	17⅝
Fst Chicago	24⅝	24¼

	May 2	May 1
Fst Interst Bncp	37	37¼
Fst Penn Corp	5½	5⅝
Ford	37⅝	37⅞
GAF Corp	17¼	17⅝
GTE Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Gen Dynamics	50¼	50⅞
Gen Electric	56½	56
Gen Foods	51½	50⅜
Gen Mills	50	50⅜
Gen Motors	67¼	67¾
Gen Pub Util NY	6½	6½
Gen Tire	32⅜	32⅞
Genesco	6	6
Georgia Pacific	22⅝	22⅞
Getty Oil	127½	127½
Gillette	48½	49
Goodrich	34½	34¼
Goodyear	27	27
Gould Inc	29⅞	28½
Grace	41½	41⅜
Gt Atlte & Pacific	15⅝	15¼
Greyhound	23½	23⅞
Grumman Corp	24¼	25¼
Gulf Oil	79⅜	79¼
Gulf & West	34½	34¼
Heinz H J	34½	34⅞
Hercules	34	34
Honeywell	58⅝	59¼
IC Inds	43¼	43⅝
Ingersoll	49	48
Inland Steel	26¼	26¼
IBM	116¼	116⅝
Int Harvester	7⅝	7¼
INCO	12⅝	12⅞
Int Paper	55½	55⅝
Int Tel Tel	37	37
Irving Bank	50¼	50¼
Jewel Co	50½	47¼
Jim Walter	27	27
Johnson & John	37¼	37¼
Kaiser Alumin	16	15⅞
Kerr McGee	33⅝	33⅝
Kimberly Clark	84¼	83¼
K Mart	28⅞	28¼
Kroger	33⅜	33⅜
L T V Corp	17¼	16⅞
Litton	70¼	70¼
Lockheed	37⅝	37½
Lucky Stores	16⅝	16⅝
Manuf Hanover	34⅝	34⅝
Manville Cp	10⅝	10⅝
Mapco	30	30
Marine Midland	22⅝	22⅝
Martin Marietta	35	35
McDonnell	49⅝	49⅝
Mead	37⅞	37⅞
Merck	92⅝	92⅝
Minnesota Mng	77⅜	77⅝
Mobil Oil	30⅞	30⅝
Monsanto	84¼	84¼
Morgan J P	71½	71⅝
Motorola	123¼	123¼
NCR Corp	109⅝	109¼
NL Industries	16⅝	16¼
Nabisco	41⅝	41⅝
Nat Distillers	28⅛	28¼
Nat Med Ent	21⅜	21⅝
Norfolk South	56⅝	56⅞
NW Bancorp	28¼	28⅝
Occidental Pet	30¼	30½
Ogden	28½	25½
Olin Corp	28⅝	28
Owens-Illinois	37	38½
Pacific Gas Elec	13⅝	13⅝
Pan Am	5½	5¼
Penney J C	53⅞	53⅞
Pennzoil	38	37⅞
Pepsico	40⅝	41⅛
Pfizer	34⅝	34⅝
Phelps Dodge	23⅞	23⅝
Philip Morris	65⅝	65½
Phillips Petrol	41⅛	41⅛
Polaroid	29½	29

	May 2	May 1
PPG Ind	30⅞	30¾
Procter Gamble	48⅝	48⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	22½	22½
Raytheon	40¼	39½
RCA Corp	35⅞	35¼
Republic Steel	31⅛	30¾
Reynolds Ind	56¼	57½
Reynolds Metal	32¼	32⅜
Rockwell Int	28	27¾
Royal Dutch	50½	50¼
Safeways	23¼	23⅝
St Regis Paper	38	37¼
SFE [illegible]	24¼	24¼
SCM	41¼	41¾
Schlumberger	53¼	53⅞
Scott Paper	31⅞	31⅞
Seagram	35⅝	35⅞
Sears Roebuck	33⅝	33⅜
Shell Oil	50⅝	50¼
Shell Trans	36	36¼
Signal Co	30	30⅝
Singer	26⅝	25⅝
Smithkline Beck	54½	55
Sony	16¼	16⅝
Sth Cal Edison	38⅝	38¼
Sperry Corp	41	42
Std Oil Califnia	38¼	38¼
Std Oil Indiana	59⅝	59¼
Std Oil Ohio	47⅞	48⅝
Sterling Drug	26	25⅝
Stevens J P	20⅝	20⅞
Sun Comp	50⅝	50¼
Teledyne	150⅝	150⅝
Tenneco	43⅝	44⅝
Texaco	40⅞	41
Texas East Corp	60⅞	60¼
Texas Inst	147⅞	148⅝
Texas Utilities	22⅞	22⅝
Textron	29⅝	29
TWA	29¼	29¼
Travelers Corp	33	34¼
TRW Inc	64½	64½
UAL Inc	35¼	34¼
Union Carbide	57⅞	57⅜
Union Oil Calif	37½	37⅝
Un Pacific Corp	48⅞	49
Uniroyal	12⅝	12⅞
United Brands	17¼	17⅝
US Industries	22⅞	22⅝
US Steel	29⅞	29⅝
Utd Technol	65⅞	65¼
Wachovia	48¼	48
Warner Comma	21⅜	21⅝
Warner Lambert	31¼	31¼
Wells Fargo	37⅞	38
Westinghse Elec	47¼	47¼
Weyerhauser	29⅝	29¼
Whirlpool	41½	41½
Woolworth	33¼	32⅝
Xerox Corp	41	41½
Zenith	30½	30⅝

Canadian Prices

	May 2	May 1
Abitibi	26½	26
Alcan Alumin	33⅝	30¼
Algoma Steel	24	24¼
Bell Telephone	31	30¼
Cominco	17¼p	17¼
Cons Bathurst	29¼	29½
Gulf Oil	18¼	19
Hawker Sid Can	16¼	16¼
Hudson Bay Min	12⅞	13
Imasco	37	37
Imperial Oil	39⅝	39¼
Int Pipe	26½	26¼
Mass-Ferguson	4⅝	4⅝
Royal Trustco	45¼	43¾
Seagram	46¼	45¾
Steel Co	26	25½
Thomson N A	37⅞	37⅞
Walker Hiram	23	22⅝
WCT	14¼	14⅝

e Ex div a Asked c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split t Traded y Unquoted

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8½%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings †	9¼%
Consolidated Crds	8½%
Continental Trust	8½%
C. Hoare & Co	*8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rate

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5¼%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%

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Why small firms are paying less

By Edward Townsend

The British Institute of Management's latest salary survey has the addition this year of a breakdown of wages and benefits for small and medium-sized companies. It shows, as would be expected, that managers in these firms have fared worse than their big organization counterparts.

If the institute is right in assessing managers as falling behind in the national wages league those of its members in the small firms have an even better reason for complaint. For example, the chief executive of a small company (defined by the BIM as one with an annual sales turnover of less than £20m) could expect an average gross salary of £28,691 this year, a rise of just 7.4 per cent over last year. The BIM's full survey, covering companies with turnovers of up to £500m, shows an annual salary this year for the top man of £45,033, an 8.3 per cent increase over 1983.

The BIM leadership, headed by Roy Close, the director general, expressed concern last week that managers generally were not being compensated for rises in inflation as well as shopfloor workers. The difference was small but enough to be disquieting, said Mr Close.

On the small firms front, the manager has enjoyed wage rises far below his manual colleagues. The survey shows that the average middle manager is likely to be paid only £10,088 gross this year by a small company, an increase of 5.5 per cent compared with wage rises in the whole economy last year of 7.75 per cent.

Other differences between the large and small enterprise are thrown up by the new survey, particularly on the 98 incentives front. Interestingly, for example, annual bonus payments appear to play a much more important part in the total remuneration package for a small firm manager than in a big company.

Of the small firm sample, 51.2 per cent of directors last year received bonuses averaging £44,568, representing 17.6 per cent of total earnings. In the large survey, only 41 per cent of directors received bonuses and the average amount was £4,393 (12.6 per cent of earnings).

The small firm survey, in which two thirds of the respondents were companies with a turnover of less than £10m and of which more than half employed fewer than 250 people, is seen by the BIM as a guide for those firms wishing to introduce a salary structure "or to monitor its chosen position in the market place."

COMPARISON OF MANAGERS' EARNINGS	1984 Average gross earnings £	Average net earnings £	Percent change on '83 gross	Percent change on '83 net
Chief Executive	31,325	20,470	7.2	9.2
Other directors	20,447	14,624	5.3	7.3
Senior function heads	16,530	12,410	14.3	14.3
Other function heads	13,540	10,317	9.7	10.1
Senior management	11,704	9,031	3.0	3.9
Middle management	10,088	7,900	5.5	6.4



Andrew Ward

Checking in for an £8m turnover: George Clay, of American Airplan

High-flier of the charter skies

By Derek Harris

George Clay, backed by a staff of 20, mostly sells spare airline seats in a cut-price tourist sector which has seen many companies founder and where competition this year is sharply increasing. Yet Clay's American Airplan, handling low-cost flights only, fly-drive holidays and inclusive tours, expects to increase its passenger volume by a fifth to more than 30,000 this year and push turnover from 1983's £6.5m to more than £8m.

It is a sector where some seat-selling operations work on gross profit margins as low as 4 per cent, with at best 7 per cent possible.

Clay, 37 years in the business, saw five lean years between 1978 and 1982 when turnover dropped as low as £1.5m, especially when the big airlines were slashing prices to compete with the Laker Skytrain on the Atlantic. The charter airlines were virtually squeezed out of the transatlantic business because they normally thrive by being able to undercut the prices of the scheduled services. Now scheduled fares have risen proportionately the charterers are back and Clay culls 40 per cent of his seats from charter operators.

In his sights particularly is Jetsave, now carrying about twice the number of passengers as Airplan. Jetsave built its cut-price transatlantic business by using British Airways flights. Now Jetsave has been bought by British Caledonian the future of the BA link is in doubt.

For the main holiday season this year, BA has launched its Poundstretcher subsidiary, seen as a direct competitor to Jetsave and Airplan and using BA flights.

Poundstretcher is offering 100,000 seats but a sceptical Clay believes it has still to prove itself. He has just seen Jetsave widen its challenge by announcing a range of budget fares to the Continent that are roughly half the scheduled fares.

Clay, whose operation is mostly to north America, says he is looking at the Continent, far eastern destinations and Australia. He sees no problem in getting into markets like Europe if only because there is usually a role for a consolidator. Consolidation is what an airline does to deal with usually scheduled flight seats which are expected to remain unsold. Clay has consolidation deals taking on spare seats with more than half a dozen airlines, including American Airlines and Delta. He also takes seats from Air Florida, Arrow and World Airways.

Last year nearly two-thirds of Airplan's seats were on scheduled services but in some areas charters are cheaper – New York being one instance – and group fares can also play a role in keeping prices low.

One unanswered question is how far low-cost scheduled flights such as those of People Express and the new Virgin Atlantic Airways could bring scheduled flight prices down, again threatening the charter market and possibly bringing back leaner times to operations like that of Airplan. Clay said: "If the major airlines don't panic, they will have a market and they will make money."

One risk in the consolidation business is that a big source of ticket supply can be airlines which are flying into financial trouble. So far Mr Clay says he has avoided any losses when airlines have gone out of business but his customers are covered against the effects of any airline failure by a no-cost insurance.

Taking on the tax man

BRIEFING

■ More than 100 small firms have called for help in less than five days since a new Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise Protection Service was launched last week, *Philip Robinson writes*. IRPC Industrial Relations and Personnel Consultants – started life in 1976 solving employment problems for small firms. It branched into issuing insurance cover to pay legal expenses, and now offers advice, insurance cover and emergency service for firms which find themselves being investigated by the tax man and the Value Added Tax inspectors.

IRPC offers a package for one price based on the number of employees. The price covers a manual on how to complete tax and VAT returns and what powers the authorities have. It includes a 24-hour emergency advice service available directly the authorities swoop. There is also day-to-day advice built into the package and an insurance policy which will pay the fees of accountants and solicitors to fight cases. The cost varies from £175 a year for a company with about 20 employees, to £450 a year for a firm with 250 staff. The package is also being sold to accountancy firms.

IRPC's managing director, Stephen Manton, says the package will no cover any cases already being investigated. Three cases are being taken on at an hourly fee-paying basis.

The core of the team are two former tax inspectors and one former VAT investigator. They have already saved an estimated £250,000 on 15 completed cases since the scheme first started about six months ago, according to Mr Manton.

● *Contact: IRPC Legal and Personnel Insurance Services, Stockwell House, Stockwell Head, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1HW; phone (0455) 30741.*

■ BSC (Industry) and local enterprise agencies this week combined resources to help new businesses set up in areas which have suffered heavy job losses because of the rundown of steel and other traditional industry.




"Oh for the days when all you had to do to get a contract was take someone to lunch!"

Derek Harris writes. BSC (Industry) was set up by the British Steel Corporation to help counter the effects of steel closures. In the link with local enterprise agencies, BSC (Industry) has designated 18 localities in Britain as Opportunity Areas in an attempt to foster new businesses. An Association of Steel Closure Enterprise Agencies will coordinate the work, backed at national level by BSC (Industry) which will provide help, contacts and advice as well as finance at favourable rates.

● *Contact: local enterprise agencies or Business Development Manager, BSC (Industry), NLA Tower, 12 Addiscombe Road, Croydon CR9 3JH; phone (01) 686 0366; telex 946372.*

■ The Open University is launching a new nine-month course providing training in running a small firm. Called "STARTUP Your Own Business", the course costs £350 and begins in 1985. It is aimed at existing small businessmen, students or ex-managers.

Barclays Bank is helping finance the scheme with a £240,000 loan and 20 per cent of course fees will go to repay this and then rank as royalty payments in lieu of interest.

● *Contact: The Open University, Associate Student Central Office, PO Box 76, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AN.*

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: FA GET THEIR PRIORITIES WRONG

What price England against the world after fiasco in Wales?

DAVID MILLER

The ineptitude of another makeshift England side in losing their final British Championship encounter with Wales turned attention to the match programme, there to discover a quite extraordinary statement by Ted Croker, the FA secretary. Taken in conjunction with an item in the current *FIFA News*, to which I will come, it suggests that football may soon sign up the Queen of Hearts as business consultant.

In attempting to defend the decision of the English and the Scots to give the elbow to Northern Ireland and Wales, to turn their backs on history and to jeopardize Britain's quartet of representatives on the International Board, all in order to be able to play allegedly more attractive matches at Wembley Mr Corker said: "We should not be ashamed to face up to the fact that our international income is an essential element in the FA's basic function of promoting the game across the whole spectrum of society."

Quite apart from reading more like the sales manager's report at the annual meeting of a multi-national detergent company, the statement seems to me totally to misrepresent the facts; that it is not money which promotes football, but the quality of football itself. This confusion is rampant within FIFA, which believes that because the World Cup and other competitions generate millions of dollars, therefore football is in sound health. Self-evidently it is not.

The FA, whose good intentions no one questions, has become preoccupied with making money rather than protecting football. Don Revie recently said, reflecting on his three controversial years as manager, that he took most pride in the money he made for the FA. The basis to every football equation now – and Mr Croker admits it in his Wrexham article – is what will fetch the highest price on television. What television wants above all is not so much a beautiful exhibition of the game – a bonus if they do, occasionally, get it – as outright gladiatorial nationalism. Can our brave but not too good lads – beat the Frogs, the Argies, the no-hope Finns, the expedient Eye-ties, the disciplined Huns? Result is all.

Mr Croker goes on to argue that there is more atractive opposition than Wales and Ireland from Europe and South America, that because we play so many qualifying competitive matches against European opponents, the only way to play South American or Third World teams is in friendlies. Yet tell me when you last saw a truly outstanding match against *anyone* at Wembley.

The profusion of competitive matches, in seeded groups which mainly keep England apart from better teams, are the death of football. Most teams come to Wembley hellbent on drawing 0-0. As for the idea that there is a gala of South American talent awaiting call, forget it. Apart from Brazil and maybe Argentina, there is no worthwhile South American team. Alun Evans, the Wales secretary, points out in answer to Ted Croker how pitifully Uruguay played at Hampden last September, attracting fewer people than Wales. Uruguay have hardly played a decent away match since the World Cup in 1970, and the goalless draw with England in 1977 was the worst imaginable.

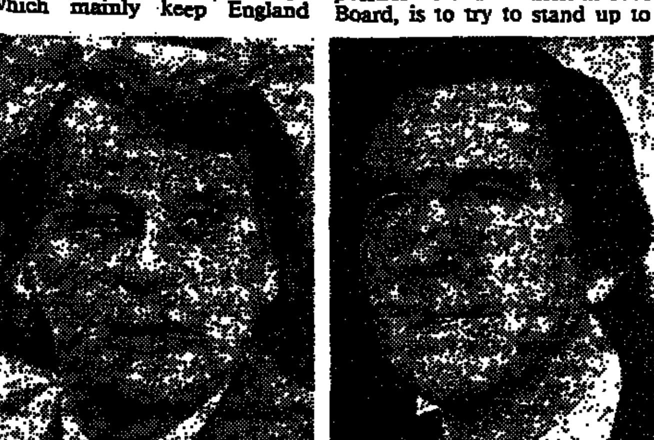
Mr Evans suggests instead of the British Championship a biannual Cup, in which England/Scotland are kept apart in the first round, playing Wales/Ireland in the winter months, with the final in the spring. Yet what the British should really be doing, through their privileged position on the International Board, is to try to stand up to FIFA and achieve better refereeing and the elimination of negative play by changes in the laws which will allow Rush and Rossi, Zico and Maradona to flourish, rather than Gentile.

There were two calculated off-the-ball fouls on Gregory on Wednesday night, both inside the penalty area after he had made intelligent runs from midfield; both were clear penalties, yet neither was apparently seen by the referee, Syme of Scotland, who at other times made melodramatic decisions about whether it was a corner or goalkick. He also missed several nasty midfield fouls by Gregory which against, say, *Argentina* would have started another war.

In *FIFA News*, the referee's committee has the audacity to criticize the press for the use of the expression "professional foul", they say it causes "uncertainty" and that there is no such offence. Well, there were at least 20 in the first hour of the last World Cup final, bookable offences deliberately intended to stop the opposition from playing.

The FA, fathers of the game, ought to be looking less at how they can make the odd extra quarter of a million at Wembley than how to save the game from its own destruction, how to liberate the remaining handful of outstanding players who are still worth watching. Indeed, they could start by having a quiet word with their manager, who after allowing Armstrong to stand in a hole in midfield doing almost nothing for 75 minutes, only then brought on Blissett.

● Gillingham's Priestfield Stadium will stage an international match for the first time on May 18. The third division club expect the schoolboy game between England and Wales to attract a crowd of around 7,000, almost double Gillingham's home average.


Robson (left) and Croker: Men with a national problem

Steve Hodge: dogged defiance

A monument to the bulldog spirit

By Clive White

It may not have been one of the most artistic displays seen in this city of culture but it was certainly a monumental one. For 77 minutes here in Florence on Wednesday night the England under-21 team blunted a technically sharp Italian side to reach the final of the European Championship, of which they are the holders.

What a powerful incentive this should have been for England's seniors, but judging by events elsewhere it came too late. Unfortunately, the qualities to recount are not ones of exceptional skill or finishing but just the good old British virtues of courage, strength and discipline harnessed to a firm understanding.

The successes were naturally of the negative sort. People like Thomas, the late replacement for *Sterland*, Bailey, Watson, *Stevens* and Hodge met the challenge squarely and hung on like bulldogs. There were no failures for England; they could afford none. It was a pleasure to see the chirpy Thomas playing with such vigour in what has been a shattering season for his confidence at Tottenham Hotspur.

England were stretched to breaking point by some dazzling forward play by Italy, much in keeping with the world champions. It is only a pity that they have to sully their talents with cynical fouls off the ball which went largely unseen by the Belgian referee. The bookings were unfairly even, two apiece. Callaghan and Thomas for England and Icardi and Bergomi for Italy.

The Italians, showing five changes to the team at Maine Road, were an entirely different proposition to the first leg. It took them only 13 minutes to get back into this tie with a piece of typically clinical finishing by Mancini as he promptly darted in front of Watson to convert Monelli's equally prompt centre.

England's goalposts presented target practice for any number of Italian players. On the half hour Dossena, heckled by his own crowd, gave a rash pass towards Caton but the England captain, struggling with an ankle injury, slipped and let in Mancini again who seized the opportunity like a good forward but saw his shot strike the foot of Bailey's post. Half-time arrived like an oasis for England's staggered defenders. Dave Sexton, the manager, admitted: "I was very worried. We were just too loose at the back".

England, with Stevens on for Caton in the second half, tightened their game and began to trade attacks with the Italians who became more and more frustrated by England's resistance until finally their spirit broke.

● England's opponents in the final will be Spain, who last night beat Yugoslavia 2-0 in Malaga, winning 3-0 on aggregate.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP: Wales 1, England 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N Ireland	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Wales	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
England	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
Scotland	2	1	0	1	2	3	2

Remaining fixtures: May 22: Wales v N Ireland; *May 26: Scotland v England.*

UEFA UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final, second leg: Italy 1, England 0 (England win 3-2 on aggregate). Spain 2, Yugoslavia 0 (Spain won on aggregate).

THIRD DIVISION: Bradford City 0, Bristol Rovers 1; Oxford United 0, Wigan Athletic 0.

FOURTH DIVISION: Darlington 1, Stockport County 0, Torquay United 1, Chester City 0.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' CUP: Semi-final (north): Hull City 1, Sheffield United 0 (Hull play Tranmere in final)

WORLD CUP: Qualifying match: European group five: Cyprus 1, Austria 2

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Switzerland 0, Sweden 0

FRENCH LEAGUE: Rennes 0, Bordeaux 2; Monaco 3, Nates 0; Auxerre 1, Rouen 0; Paris St Germain 1, Toulouse 0; Brest 5, Toulon 2; Saint-Etienne 1, Laval 0; Metz 3, Lens 0; Bastia 4, Strasbourg 2; Lille 2, Nancy 0; Nimes 2, Souchaux 2 (Bordeaux win championship)

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Shepshed Charterhouse 2, Wellingborough 0; Milton Keynes 0, Dudley 2 Southern division: RS Southampton 1, Thanet 1

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Heart of Midlothian 0, Aberdeen 1; Rangers 2, Dundee United 2

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 1, Nottinghem Forest 1; Newcastle 1, Stoke 3 Second division: Rotherham 4, Chesterfield 0

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City 0, Barnet 1; Kidderminster 2, Northwich Victoria 2; Yeovil 2, Kettering 0

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Leicester 8, Reading 0; Millwall 3, Norwich 2, Southampton 1, Chelsea 2

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: Final, second leg: Workington 0, Marine 0 (aet; Workington win on away goal)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SECOND DIVISION: Bramley 25, Cardiff City 20; Carlisle 25, Hunslet 22; Doncaster 16, Huyton 16.

Today's Fixtures

7.30 unless stated

Second division

Manchester City v Chelsea (7.15).

Fourth division

Halifax Town v Chesterfield.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Runcorn v Nuneaton; Weymouth v Bangor City.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: *First division:* Blackburn v Stoke; Manchester United v Everton Second division: Rotherham v Barnsley (7.0).

Taylor double hope

By Paul Newman

Peter Taylor, the former Crystal Palace and Tottenham Hotspur winger, is set to become the first player to appear for England at both full and semi-professional levels. Taylor, who now plays for Maidstone United, has been selected for the four nations semi-professional tournament in Italy next month.

Keith Wright, the England manager, has tended not to select former professionals who have moved into non-League football at a late age, and have preferred instead players who have based their careers in the semi-professional game.

ENGLAND SQUAD: D Clarke (Blyth), A Pape (Harrow), B Thompson (Maidstone), J Davison (Altrincham), K Barrett (Enfield), P Robinson (Blyth), M Newson (Maidstone), T Morley (Nuneaton), J Johnson (Altrincham), A Cordice (Wealdstone), C Williams (Telford), P Culpin (Nuneaton), N Ashford (Enfield). Non-travelling reserves: G Phillips (Barnet), K Lewis (Telford), N Ironton (Maidstone), O Smith (Runcorn), D Pearce (Harrow).

Taylor, aged 31, has, however, impressed Wright with both his skill and commmitment to Maidstone, who have three other players Thompson, Newson and Watson in the squad.

Scotland, Italy and the Netherlands are the other countries competing in the four nations tournament, which England won last year.

Nuneaton Borough will go top of the Alliance Premier League if they win at Runcorn in their last game of the season tonight. Maidstone, however, will than take the championship if they win their final game at home to Telford United tomorrow. If Nuneaton win by one goal Maidstone will need only to draw; should Nuneaton win by two goals or more, Maidstone will have to win.

Provided their ground facilities are up to standard, the Alliance champions go forward as candidates for election to the Canon League. Maidstone were the unsuccessful candidates last year.

Now Oxford seek title

Oxford United capped a memorable season by winning promotion to the second division, after an eight-year absence, following their goalless draw at home to Wigan Athletic on Wednesday night. A home victory on Saturday against Exeter City, already relegated to the fourth division, will give Oxford the third division championship to add to the glory claimed in the FA and Milk Cups this season.

The Oxford chairman, Robert Maxwell, asked with supporters to reserve their promotion celebrations until their last match, against Rotherham United on May 12, but his plea fell on deaf ears. Nearly 9,000 fans were denied a goal which would have given the club the championship, but nobody seemed to care. At the end, supporters invaded the pitch and called for the players to make another public appearance.

Aberdeen completed the formalities of winning their second *Scottish premier division championship* in five years, as their 1–0 victory over Heart of Midlothian at Tynecastle lifted them on to the 54-point mark. The manager, Alex Ferguson, said: "It's good going for any team outside of Celtic and Rangers to win the title twice – but to defend is successful would be particularly nice. Not many teams have done that but we want to be one of them".

BOXING

Bruno may have to learn new tricks as circus hits town

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

If the circus that came to London yesterday is anything to go by, then Frank Bruno had better learn a few new tricks by the time he meets James "Bonecrusher" Smith at Wembley on Sunday, May 13 – an auspicious day for a heavyweight encounter as Joe Louis was born on at date.

The troupe consists of the main *performer, "Bonecrusher" himself,* his two joint managers, Steve Nelson and Alan Kornberg, a trainer, Emile Griffith, the former world middleweight champion, and a sparring partner, Linwood Jones.

The fact that they have come here in force and set up camp a good 10 days before the event seems to show that they mean business. Perhaps, just perhaps, for the first time we may see one of Bruno's opponents land two telling blows one after the other on our man.

The unranked 6ft 4in heavyweight from Magnolia, North Carolina, aims to "apply the crusher" to *Bruno*, take over the British boxer's ninth place in the world rankings and move on to greater things. Nelson, sporting an "I love Bonecrusher" badge, waved a pennant saying "Bonecrusher Express" and said: "We are on our way to the top and Mr Bruno is going to find out that he is not going *to be an obstacle." The fighter said:* "Bruno is going to fall. I don't know when, but he is going to fall because he is in my way."

But when the flag-waving and the fist-waving was over, Smith, as *might be expected, turned out to be* a most personable 29-year-old. A graduate in business administration, he spends his spare time teaching history to prisoners at the Harnet Centre in North Carolina. He earned his nickname serving as an administrative officer in the Third Infantry Division in Germany when, after he had crushed a few ribs and broke some noses in the Army Boxing matches, one of his officers said: "I'm going to call you 'Bonecrusher'."

Nelson says that many a sparring partner will testify to the qualities celebrated by his nickname. Smith has had 14 contests, compared with Bruno's 21. He has been beaten only once, in four rounds by James Broad, but all his other opponents have gone the way of Bruno's victims – anytime from the second to the eighth round, mainly the second.

Nelson said that he and his partner, Kornberg, spotted Smith while watchng boxing on television. so impressed were the two real estate men at the way in which Smith beat the much touted Chris McDonald that they decided to make him their first signing. They interviewed him and then took him along to Emile Griffith in the Times Square gym in 1982. Griffith said "I was impressed then and I am just as impressed today."

Big incentive for Scots

With a shortage of cash restricting the size of the British Olympic Games team, the Scots have their biggest incentive for years to win places in the Olympic party (Srikumar Sen writes). For the first time in eight years they have six men in the ninetysixth ABA finals, sponsored by Geroge Wimpey, at Wembley tonight.

They also have the added spur that the manager of the Olympic team is Frank Hendry, of Scotland, and the assistant coach, Dick McTaggart. The public should get their money's worth.

The three with the best chance are the flyweight, Patrick Clinton (Croy Miners), Alex Dickson, the lightweight from Larkhall, and the Lochee light-welter, Willie Buchanan. Clinton meets John McBride of Repton, and the Scot should gain a close verdict. Dickson has enough all-round ability to impress the judges against Carl Crook, of the Army. Buchanan is a greatly improved boxer and should not be troubled gaining his second victory over the Welshman, David Griffith, of Splott.

The Hawick heavyweight Douglas Young, however, will be up against it when he faces John Farrugia, of the Prince of Wales. The Cardiff docker has turned out to be one of the big punchers of the year. In the British semi-finals he disposed of Horace Miles with one big right hand after trailing by miles

Of the English the three who should find themselves in the Olympic party are the light-flyweight John Lyon (Greenall, St Helens), the light-middleweight Rod Douglas (St George's, London) and the experienced middleweight Brian Schumacher, of the Navy.

Lyon will be trying for his fourth title and he should beat Wayne Williams, of Trelewis, to break Abrams's record. Schumacher takes on Russell Barker, a Scot from St Francis ABC, and since the Navy man survived a controversial count in the semi-finals Barker could fancy his chances. Douglas looks a sure thing against the Welshman Neil Munn.

RUGBY UNION

Cup passion killers

By Michael Stevenson

Cup rugby has many critics, but the greatest argument in its favour must be based on the intensity of passion that it so often engenders. This plus factor is cancelled, some would say, by the tendency of one club to dominate a particular competition, so that the winner is known before the first ball is kicked.

Sale, one of the North's most successful sides, have won the Cheshire Cup for 13 consecutive seasons and with it a guarantee of entry into the preliminary stages of the national knockout. Glancing realistically at Sale's rivals in this competition, it is hard to see an end to their dominance.

The same might have been said about the Northumberland Cup. Gosforth for some years one of the most powerful teams in the country, have casually carried off the cup for – yes – the last 13 years. This winter logic was swept into the North Sea as Alnwick, at their fifth attempt, managed to defeat a Gosforth team that admittedly had been ravaged by injury.

Alnwick's triumph was the more notable in that the club was founded only 14 years ago and, on form, could not have been judged likely to give Gosforth a game. A little further south, West Hartlepool, winners of the Northern merit table, defeated their friends and neighbours, Hartlepool Rovers, to win the Durham Cup for the fourth successive year.

Aspatria, winning the Cumbria Cup for the fifth consecutive year, appear to have taken over, perhaps temporarily, from Wigton, the beaten finalists who previously held the cup for four successive seasons.

To the south-west, Liverpool, exploiting the extraordinary collapse of Orrell, won the Lancashire *Cup. They defeated Preston Grass*hoppers, coached by England's coach, Richard Greenwood, at the close of a season in which three rival clubs – Waterloo, Orrell and Vale of Lune – all seemed to be ahead of them at various stages in the quest for honours.

Yorkshire's inability to spawn a club of acknowledged and undoubted senior status is largely offset by Headingley's emergence as potential challengers for this title. As holders of "T'Owd Tin Pot", Headingley defended their tenure convincingly, defeating Wakefield in a final that underlined the crucial contribution that Brian Barley, absent through injury, makes during his recently-rare club appearances.

British championship finals mark golden anniversary

Spirit of ice hockey past checks into Wembley

With the British championship finals being played this weekend, ice hockey returns to what people in the sport are given to calling its "spiritual home", as though Sir Arthur Elvin still stalks black-hatted through Wembley Arena, Bobby Dennison flits between the show jumpers and the gymnasts with a spectral puck attached to his stick and Lou Bates winds up again for a rink-lenth dash scattering the rock stars and basketball players who have usurped his special territory.

Lou Bates, however, is alive and well, and so is his game, which flourishes again fifty years after it first arrived at what was then the newly-built Empire Pool.

The first game was played on October 25, 1934, between the Wembley Canadians and Wembley Lions, the two teams the arena had entered in the English National League. Among those first Canadian recruits were Bates, who was to become the outstanding figure in prewar British ice hockey, and a 19-year-old defenceman from Winnipeg, Clarence (Sonny) Rost.

After three months Rost was so homesick he asked for his release. Instead Elvin raised his salary from £5 a week and Rost stayed on, for the rest of the season, for the followin seasons, through the war, playing until the British League collapsed in 1960. He is still here.

"It was the best league in the world then," he says of the pre-war era. English clubs had the pick of Canadian players outside the professional National Hockey League, which then had only six clubs.

For a long time ice hockey provided the major part of the arena's business. During the post-war entertainment boom there were six teams in London alone, drawing crowds of 8,000 or more to Wembley and the now defunct arenas at Harringay and Earls Court, but the structure of the game – geographically lop-sided and *top-heavy with imported players* – could not withstand the initial impact of television.

Yet ice Hockey remained a regular and popular attraction at Wembley until 1968, though by then a veteran team was running short of plausible opposition. The game returned briefly *in 1973,* when a team of professionals from the Detroit Red Wings' organization appeared as the London Lions. With no league to pay in and a bizarre schedule that concentrated all their home games into two months on either side of Wembley's Christmas ice show, the Lions lost £100,000 that season. When plans for a European League fell through, the Lions did not return.

Ironically, there had been a european League 40 years before; when Wembley first opened. Travel to Berlin and Prague in midwinter was in those days a more hazardous undertaking. Rost remembers a flight to Paris that was interrupted by a forced landing in a Mormandy field.

But Wembley and English ice Hockey continued to exert a considerable influence on the European game. During the run of the ice shows, teams would tour Europe. The Soviet Union, whose recent ascendancy had been as traumatic to Canadian ice hockey as the 1953 Hungarians were to English football, paid regular visits.

The European game, which emphasizes skating and passing, resembles the style that Wembley enshrined "We used to play wide-open hockey without too much hitting," Rost says. "In America now they learn to hit and hack with the stick before they learn the basic skills"

Nevertheless, Wembley's dealings with the Russians were not always cordial. On one memorable occasion Roy Shepherd, Wembley's English defenceman, laid out a fast-skating Soviet forward. "It was a clean hit, a beautiful check," Rost says. But it halted play for several minutes as the Russians retreated to their dressing room and the cold war momentarily over-heated. Rost recalls what he took to be Soviet embassy staff screaming "Bloody English butcher!" at Shepherd as he returned to the bench.

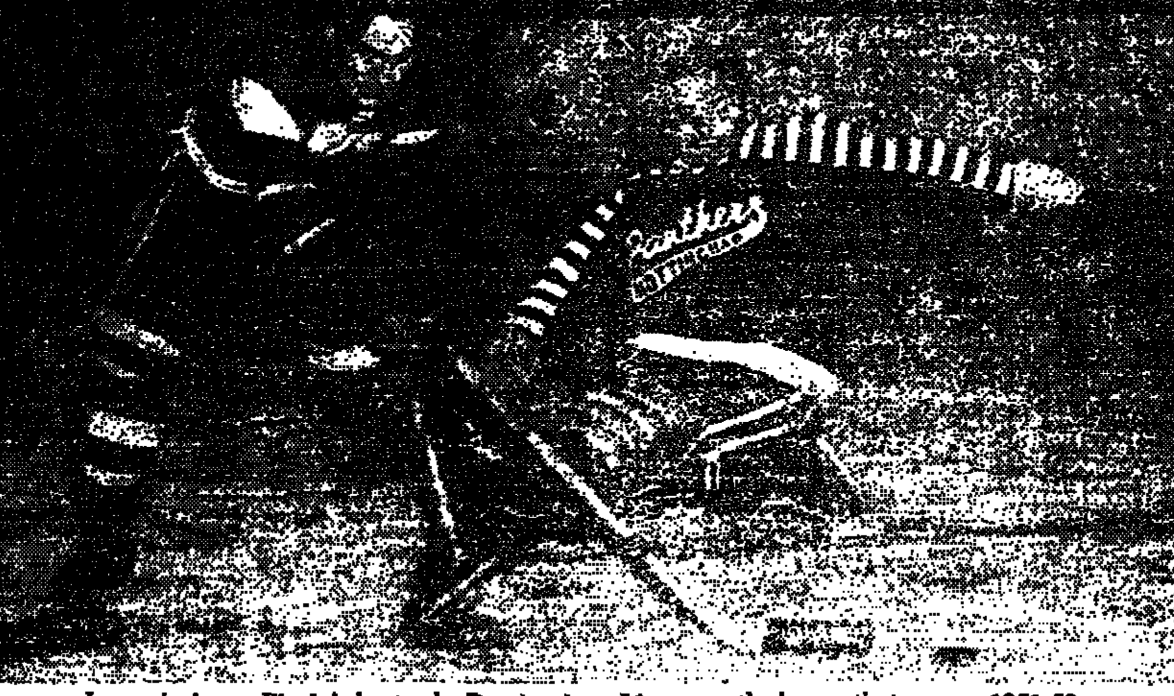
The Wembley style owed much to Sir Arthur Elvin, the stadium's managing director until his death in 1957. Rost tells of the time when Elvin saw the New York Rangers play in the National Hockey League. "He said, 'If that's the way the professionals play I don't want to know'."

It was a style that suited George Beach, a stocky Canadian centre who scored more than 1,000 goals in a 20-year career at Wembley. "Wembley always stood for clean fast skating, good stickhandling and goalscoring," he said. "Sir Arthur Elvin wanted clean, fast, crowd-pleasing hockey. He didn't have any time for bully-boys or dirty players. He'd give them a chance, he'd fine them and if they didn't shape up he'd send them home."

The most prominent victim of this policy was a defenceman with a splendidly menacing physique and the splendidly menacing name of Red Kurz. "He was the gentlest hockey player ever," Rost recalls, but Kurz's career was interrupted by a clash with Dave Miller, a Streatham wing Rost calls "a little chippy sort of player". According to Rost, who was by then player-coach of the Wembley Monarchs, Miller "clipped Red in the ear with his stick and laughed. But he made a mistake ... Red cleaved him straight across the head with his stick."

Elvin did not approve. Kurz never played for Wembley again. Such unyielding probity should not be unwelcome at the British championship finals this weekend, when it will be time to revive the spirit of Wembley.

Robert Pryce


Ice cool winner: Finch is beaten by Beach, whose Lions won the league that season, 1951-52

CRICKET: NEW ROAD IS A SUITABLE GROUND FOR TREATMENT

Batsmen suffer grievous bodily harm on pitch that could turn killer

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

WORCESTER: Worcestershire, with eight second innings wickets in hand, need 212 to beat Glamorgan.

From 11 o'clock until a quarter to eight batsmen lived in peril at Worcester yesterday as the faster bowlers took it in turns to hit them all over the body. For Worcestershire, Neale played a captain's innings of 73; for Glamorgan, when they were being bowled out in only 36.2 overs in their second innings, Henderson again played his game with a conviction and relative composure which no-one else came anywhere near to matching. Glamorgan will have to bowl uncommonly badly not to win today.

Between now and May 19, when the West Indians play the opening match of their tour here, someone must have a word with the groundsman. Maybe the Worcestershire batsmen will, fearing for their own safety. Over the last two days the bounce has been steep and unpredictable enough to be positively dangerous. With Marshall and Garner bowling it would have been lethal. Worcestershire's physiotherapist, acting for both sides, has been constantly tending the wounded. Three times he came out to minister to Neale during his innings of three hours 20 minutes.

Another thing. If some grass is taken off the pitch, the days will not last so long. They are dragging on now until 7.30 or beyond mainly because the faster bowlers are having to do almost all the work. Yesterday there was only one over of spin. On Wednesday it was only because Worcestershire bowled so inaccurately that Glamorgan reached 300. Glamorgan themselves, having reduced Worcestershire to 29 for four in their first innings, should have bowled them out from many fewer than 209. Glamorgan's second innings of 134 reflected much more accurately the problems of batting. It is surprising that no one, so far, has finished up in hospital.

After Glamorgan's overnight declaration, Worcestershire were at once in trouble. Weston was caught at the wicket in the third over, more for fear of what the ball might do than what it did; in the fourth, Curtis was caught at slip, the ball lifting; in the seventh Patel was smartly caught at short leg off something that lifted horribly; in the sixteenth Smith was bowled between bat and pad by Selvey's second ball. Besides lifting sharply, the odd ball would also move extravagantly off the seam or keep low.

How, in that case, did Neale, who can be said to be only fairly fond of fast bowling, ever come to make 73, an innings which probably saved Worcestershire from a two-day defeat? Well, he watched the ball closely, even when he was not particularly near to it, and he played the shots he likes, especially the square force off the back foot; he had the luck to survive a straightforward chance to slip when he was 43, and he played and missed a good deal. There was a time, when Humphries was in, when there was almost more missing than playing.

All things considered, Neale's was an admirable effort, worth many a hundred in easier conditions. Humphries, coming in at 61 for five, made a lucky, bustling and useful 37. He and Neale added 65 in an hour, a partnership which gave Worcestershire some hope.

Of the Glamorgan bowlers the most dangerous, of course, was from the Caribbean – Davis, the St Vincentian who, at times during the winter, was one of the West Indian hit squad. His omission from their side to tour England this summer was something of a surprise. He was a fearsome proposition yesterday, owing not least to his height.

If further evidence is needed on the pitch, in Glamorgan's second innings Warner and Ellcock both achieved the best figures of their careers. Ellcock, too, is a West Indian. Warner, though of West Indian origin, was in fact born in Birmingham. With Davis soon striking again, in more ways than one, when Glamorgan, needing 23 to win, went in for the last nine overs of the day, 2 wickets had fallen since a white man took one. Oh my Perks and my Mercer long ago!

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 309 for 8 dec (S P Henderson 90; Bowling: Ellcock 13-3-35-1; Pridgeon 24-4-53-2; Inchmore 20-6-45-1; Warner 19-3-84-2; Patel 26-9-57-2)

Second Innings

J A Hopkins l-b-w b Ellcock	1
A L Jones c Smith b Warner	20
R C Ontong b Ellcock	1
Younis Ahmed c D'Oliveira b Pridgeon	4
S P Henderson c Humphries b Ellcock	56
J F Steele b Warner	7
†T Davies c Humphries b Warner	0
J G Thomas c and b Warner	8
W W Davis l-b-w b Ellcock	8
*M W W Selvey l-b-w b Warner	4
S R Barwick not out	2
Extras (b 9, l-b 13, n-b 1)	23
Total	134

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-20, 3-15, 4-60, 5-83, 6-83, 7-101, 8-123, 9-132, 10-134.

BOWLING: Ellcock 14.2-3-34-4; Pridgeon 8-0-37-1; Inchmore 3-0-13-0; Warner 11-2-27-5

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

M J Weston c Davies b Davis	0
T S Curtis c Henderson b Barwick	1
D M Smith b Selvey	14
D N Patel c Jones b Davis	6
*P A Neale c Henderson b Thomas	73
D B D'Oliveira l-b-w b Selvey	10
†D J Humphries b Selvey	37
J D Inchmore b Davis	14
A E Warner c Steele b Thomas	27
R M Ellcock not out	9
A P Pridgeon b Davis	3
Extras (b 4, l-b 8, w 1, n-b 2)	15
Total	209

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-2, 3-17, 4-29, 5-61, 6-126, 7-149, 8-181, 9-192, 10-209.

BOWLING: Davis 19.2-4-59-4; Barwick 13-6-31-1; Selvey 18-8-41-3; Thomas 12-1-56-2; Ontong 1-0-8-0.

Second Innings

M J Weston not out	8
T S Curtis c and b Davis	0
R M Ellcock b Barwick	7
A P Pridgeon not out	7
Extras (b 1)	1
Total (2 wkts)	23

D M Smith, D N Patel, *P A Neale, D B D'Oliveira, †D J Humphries, J D Inchmore and A E Warner to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-14.

Bonus points: Worcestershire 5, Glamorgan 8

Umpires: M J Kitchen and K E Palmer

Today's cricket

11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

CANTERBURY: Kent v Essex.

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Derbyshire

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire

THE OVAL: Surrey v Northamptonshire.

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Glamorgan

OTHER MATCHES

FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Sussex.

THE PARKS: Oxford University v Somerset.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP

DERBY: Derbyshire v Lancashire; LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Warwick; CAYTHORPE: Nottinghamshire v Glamorgan.



Steele hook: the Northamptonshire batsman showing his mettle yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

Kent flop as Pringle finishes with seven

By Richard Streeton

CANTERBURY: Essex, with eight second innings wickets in hand, lead Kent by 57 runs.

Derek Pringle, who finished with seven wickets as Kent collapsed, confirmed his new maturity in cold and murky conditions at the St Lawrence ground yesterday when only two hours 40 minutes of play was possible.

Pringle, who last played for England in December 1982, spent the winter in Sydney club cricket away from the limelight and has clearly returned a better player.

Drizzle and mist prevented play before mid-afternoon, then Pringle bowled unchanged from the Pavilion End, which on both days has assisted bowlers more than the other. He moved the ball considerably, both through the air and off the seam, and his action was smooth and positive. There was one no-ball, but generally he was unrecognizable from the bowler who had so many problems with his approach run last year.

Kent, who overnight were 116 for three, were bowled out in a further 105 minutes. Pringle's figures for the day were five for 34 from 11.1 overs. The onlyn person to show any confidence was the night watchman, Penn. He hooked and drove four fours against Foster and three against Pringle with an aplomb which made one blink.

Pringle's successes began when he had Tavare and Cowdrey well caught by the wicket-keeper in consecutive overs. Each time the ball left the batsman late and the catch was taken in front of first slip. Penn's short but brilliant cameo ended when he was fatally tempted by a bouncer and Pont judged the catch safely as he ran in from long leg.

When Lever replaced Foster, his first ball was lifted into cover's hands by Ellison. Knott was bowled trying to drive Pringle before East dived to his right again to catch Johnson off Lever. Jarvis was splendidly caught at first slip for Pringle to finish with 7 for 53 in all.

When Essex went in again at 4.56 there were 34 overs left to be bowled. The light was appalling and after 13 overs the players went off and did not return. By then Gladwin had been caught at cover and Pont in the slips. If the weather relents it could be an exciting finish today.

ESSEX: First Innings 202 (K S McEwan 63; R M Ellison 4 for 35)

Second Innings

*G A Gooch not out	24
C Gladwin c Aslett b Ellison	13
K R Pont c Tavare b Cowdrey	1
K S McEwan not out	0
Extras	0
Total (2 wkts)	38

B R Hardie, D R Pringle, N Phillips, †D E East, N A Foster, J K Lever and D L Acfield to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-32

KENT: First Innings

R A Woolmer l-b-w b Pringle	42
N R Taylor c Gladwin b Pringle	35
*C J Tavaré c East b Pringle	11
D G Aslett c Pringle b Foster	13
C Penn c Pont b Pringle	36
C S Cowdrey c East b Pringle	3
R M Ellison c Hardie b Lever	15
†A P E Knott b Pringle	4
G W Johnson c East b Lever	8
D L Underwood not out	6
K B S Jarvis c McEwan b Pringle	1
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 7)	11
Total	183

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-79, 2-86, 3-111, 4-116, 5-124, 6-163, 7-170, 8-170, 9-182, 10-183.

BOWLING: Lever 15-3-35-2; Foster 21-6-60-1; Pringle 22.1-6-53-7; Phillip 7-0-24-0.

Bonus points: Essex 6, Kent 4.

Umpires: B J Mayer and P B Wight.



Pringle: new maturity

West Indies set another Test record

Kingston (Agencies) – By winning the fifth and final Test match by 10 wickets here on Wednesday, the West Indies defeated Australia 3-0 in the series – a record margin.

The West Indies openers, Greenidge and Haynes, nonchalantly scored the 55 runs they needed to win after Australia had been bowled out for 160 in their second innings, 37 minutes after start of play.

The West Indies have gone through this series without losing a wicket in their second innings, a remarkable statistic which illustrates their superiority.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 199 (A R Border 55 not out, M D Marshall 3 for 37, J Garner 3 for 42)

Second Innings

†W B Phillips b Garner	2
G R J Matthews b Holding	7
A R Border not out	60
G M Ritchie b Holding	8
*K J Hughes c Greenidge b Marshall	23
D W Hookes c Dujon b Marshall	7
T G Hogan b Marshall	10
G F Lawson b Marshall	4
R M Hogg b Marshall	14
J N Maguire b Garner	0
S B Smith absent injured	–
Extras (b 17 l-b 4, n-b 4)	25
Total ()	160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-15, 3-27, 4-89, 5-109, 6-125, 7-131, 8-159, 9-160, 10-160.

BOWLING: Marshall 23-3-51-5, Garner 16.4-6-28-2, Holding 11-4-20-2, Baptiste 6-3-11-0, Harper 9-2-25-0, Richards 2-0-4-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 305 (C G Greenidge 127, D L Haynes 68; J N Maguire 4 for 57).

C G Greenidge not out	32
D L Haynes not out	15
Extras (b 2 l-b 3 n-b 3)	8
Total ()	55

R B Richardson, I V A Richards, *C H Lloyd, †P J Dujon, M D Marshall, E A E Baptiste, R A Harper, J Garner, M A Holding did not bat.

BOWLING: Lawson 5-0-24-0, Hogg 5.4-0-18-0, Maguire 1-0-8-0.

No-balls and wides are debited to bowlers.

Rice is the pick of potent Notts attack

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire, with seven second innings wickets in hand, lead Leicestershire by 192 runs

Nottinghamshire, who dismissed Leicestershire for 196, and reached 97 for three in their second innings by the close, are in a strong position. Leicestershire were struggling at 91 for six at one stage against a seam attack making full use of a green pitch and hazy conditions.

A recovery by the tail saw Parsons undefeated on 38, and Agnew hit a rapid 30. Haysman (28) and Garnham (25) also made useful runs. Rice, the captain, was the pick of the Nottinghamshire attack

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 291 for 9 dec

Second Innings

B C Broad c Haysman b Briers	22
R T Robinson c Butcher b Cook	20
D W Randall not out	38
B Hassan c Garnham b Briers	9
*C E B Rice not out	2
Extras (b 3, l-b 2, n-b 1)	6
Total (3 wkts)	97

J D Birch, R J Hadlee, †B N French, K Saxelby, K E Cooper and P M Such to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-37, 2-49, 3-88

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

J C Balderstone c Birch b Saxelby	17
I P Butcher c Randall b Rice	2
*P Willey l-b-w b Rice	12
N E Briers c Hassan b Cooper	6
M D Haysman c Broad b Rice	28
T J Boon c Birch b Such	10
†M A Garnham c French b Hadlee	25
G J Parsons not out	38
N G B Cook c Hadlee b Saxelby	2
J P Agnew b Hadlee	30
L B Taylor c and b Cooper	6
Extras (b 10, l-b 7, w 2, n-b 1)	20
Total	196

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-24, 3-35, 4-39, 5-85, 6-91, 7-140, 8-147, 9-180, 10-196.

BOWLING: Hadlee 24-6-68-2; Rice 17-5-28-3, Cooper 13.1-8-10-2; Saxelby 16-6-42-2; Broad 4-1-19-0; Such 9-4-9-1.

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 7, Leicestershire 4.

Umpires: W E Alley and J A Jameson.

Lacklustre duel in the sunshine

By Peter Ball

OLD TRAFFORD: Derbyshire with three first innings wickets in hand, lead Lancashire by 28 runs.

Manchester basked in warm spring sunshine yesterday, but the cricket remained resolutely of the three-sweater variety as Derbyshire proved that anything Lancashire could do, they could do almost equally grimly.

Miller mirrored the efforts of Lancashire's own middle-order anchor man, Hughes, nearly exactly in industry, application, and speed – or lack of it – as he guided his side to their first innings lead with an unbeaten 74 in three and a half hours.

It was a long, disappointing end for Lancashire to a day which had begun so promisingly but soon lapsed into an unrewarding slog after the opening overs had given them hope of more success.

The main stumbling block to Lancashire's progress was the tall figure of Moir. At 13 for 2, with McFarlane, the pick of Lancashire's bowlers, having removed Barnett and Anderson, Derbyshire were in some disarray.

At that stage Moir looked every inch of his 6ft 8in height. With a modicum of luck and considerable use of a large front pad he survived to put the innings on a sound footing in company with the undemonstrative Hill.

With a most unlikely century partnership beckoning, however, Hill elected to leave a straight one from Simmons when three short of his 50.

Moir batted on to reach his own half-century, then heaved a skier to mid-on to end a sterling innings of three hours 11 minutes

Initially, like Lancashire the previous day, Derbyshire failed to build on such a promising situation as middle-order, mid-afternoon paralysis set in. Hampshire and Fowler departed to bad shots, and Miller responded by taking root.

His partner, Finney, was marginally more aggressive as they steered Derbyshire cautiously to a second batting point and then, as the new ball arrived, more freely to their century partnership, and first innings lead.

McFarlane's return ended Finney's stint, but Miller remained, that long-sought-after first century now in view.

LANCASHIRE: First innings 269 (D P Hughes 72)

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*K J Barnett c Simmons b McFarlane	2
D G Moir c Abrahams b McFarlane	61
I S Anderson c Zaidi b McFarlane	9
A Hill b Simmons	47
J H Hampshire c Abrahams b Allott	18
G Miller not out	74
W P Fowler b Simmons	16
R J Finney b McFarlane	52
P G Newman not out	9
Extras (b8, l-b7, n-b4)	19
Total (7 wkts)	297

†R W Taylor and O H Mortensen to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-2, 2-13, 3-108, 4-137, 5-149, 6-166, 7-273.

Bonus points: Lancashire 4, Derbyshire 5.

Umpires: D J Constant and D O Oslear

Gower to stay in hospital

David Gower will be confined to hospital for several days recovering from blood poisoning. "He still feels terrible," according to his girl friend, Vicky Stewart.

The Leicestershire captain went into hospital on Tuesday when an infection spread from a cut on the index finger of his right hand. The swelling has since moved up his arm, but a hospital spokesman said yesterday that it was "not getting worse".

Middlesex players have been given a special incentive to do well against the West Indians at Lords in the match beginning on August 4. There will be a £250 award to the county's best batsman and bowler as part of a £7,000 sponsorship of the game by Queensway Furnishing.

The deal is worth a total of £15,000. The company are also financing a bonus scheme based on performances in the John Player Sunday League.

Richards keeps Surrey in lead

By Marcus Williams

THE OVAL: Surrey, with all second innings wickets in hand, are 32 runs ahead of Northamptonshire.

Surrey held a narrow advantage over Northamptonshire when bad light ended play yesterday with 142 overs still to be delivered. The bowling of Clarke, Thomas and Pocock, with expert assistance from Richards behind the stumps, brought Surrey a first-innings lead of 18 after Lamb, with 74, and Bailey, 65, had shored up the visitors' batting.

On an overcast day, when the Oval's burgeoning new looks under the the ambitious development plan made it far less bleak than it once was, Northamptonshire faced a testing start as the ball swung and seamed, sometimes more than the bowlers could control.

Clarke had Cook caught at first slip with his second ball of the day and in his sixth over Boyd-Moss, who had been dropped by Needham at short leg when two, cut a ball he should have left alone and was caught behind, the first of Richard's five victims. With Monkhouse and Payne unfit, the newcomer Feltham, aged 20, was first changed and, once he found his line, he bowled some useful away swing.

Although Larkins and Lamb never looked entirely at ease, they added 56 for the third wicket before Larkins, having been in for 31 overs, edged Knight's fourth ball to Richards, who was standing up to the stumps. Shortly before lunch Lamb, then 23, was missed at second slip by Lynch, a low chance off Clarke, and the miss proved costly.

Lamb found a confident partner in Bailey, another 20-year-old and fresh from his maiden 100 in the last match. Their stand was worth 110. Now and again Lamb unleashed a good-looking cut or drive, once hitting Pocock straight for six, while Bailey, strongly-built, timed the ball well from a high backlift and also hit Pocock for six.

After bowling indifferently early on from the Vauxhall End, Thomas came back to bowl with great hostility from the Pavilion End. He accounted for Lamb, who tried in vain to get his bat out of the way of a rising ball and edged to Richards, and after tea dismissed Steele and Walker. Thomas also took a magnificent catch ot remove Bailey, running some 25 yards from deep mid-off to deep mid-on and diving full-length to hold on to a steepling hit. Bailey has now scored 191 runs in three innings this season for only once out.

When Capel followed in the same over, tempted down the pitch by Pocock and smartly stumped by Richards, three wickets had fallen in nine overs for 12 runs; but Steele, Sharp and Mallender saw Northamptonshire to their fourth batting point in the ninety-sixth over. The 300 itself was put up by Hanley.

SURREY: First Innings 318 for 7 dec (R D V Knight 87, M A Lynch 60, C J Richards 56 not out).

Second Innings

A R Butcher not out	1
D B Pauline not out	11
Extras (n-b 2)	2
Total (no wkt)	14

*G P Howarth, R D V Knight, M A Lynch, A Needham, †C J Richards, D J Thomas, M A Feltham, S T Clarke and P I Pocock to bat.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

G Cook c Knight b Knight	5
W Larkins c Richards b Knight	32
R J Boyd-Moss c Richards b Clarke	20
A J Lamb c Richards b Thomas	74
R J Bailey c Thomas b Pocock	65
D J Capel st Richards b Pocock	3
D S Steele b Thomas	20
†G Sharp c Butcher b Feltham	27
N A Mallender b Pocock	27
A Walker c Richards b Thomas	0
R W Hanley not out	3
Extras (b 3, l-b 16, n-b 5)	24
Total	300

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-42, 3-98, 4-208, 5-220, 6-220, 7-263, 8-276, 9-288, 10-300.

BOWLING: Clarke 21-4-65-2; Thomas 22-7-46-3; Feltham 20-5-71-1; Knight 15-4-51-1; Pocock 18.2-5-43-3.

Bonus points: Surrey 8, Northamptonshire 7.

Umpires: D G L Evans and D R Shepherd.

Cambridge fail to cope with pace of Reeve

FENNER'S: Sussex with eight second-innings wickets in hand, lead Cambridge University by 292 runs.

Dermot Reeve, the Sussex fast bowler, produced a career-best five for 22 off 21.1 overs to put his county well on top against Cambridge University. Cambridge were dismissed for 156 – 203 behind – after Andrew and Golding had shared a second wicket stand worth 57 which delayed Sussex for two hours.

Andrew completed a maiden 50, but from 95 for two the light blues were made to struggle by Reeve. The Wells brothers, Colin (32) and Alan (30), were unbeaten at the close when Sussex were 89 for two – a lead of 292 – in their second innings.

SUSSEX: First innings 359 for 5 dec (I A Greig 106 not out, P W G Parker 100 not out, G D Mendis 69)

Second Innings

A M Green b Garlick	4
†I J Gould c Peck b Garlick	22
C M Wells not out	32
A P Wells not out	30
Extras (l-b 1)	1
Total (2 wkts)	89

G D Mendis, *J R T Barclay, P W G Parker, I A Greig, G S le Roux, D A Reeve and A N Jones to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-1, 2-39

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY First Innings

C R Andrew b Barclay	51
A E Lea c Gould b le Roux	11
A K Golding c Reeve b C M Wells	23
S N Siddiqi l-b-w b Reeve	29
M N Breddy l-b-w b Greig	9
P G P Roebuck l-b-w b Greig	4
†A G Davies c Parker b Reeve	1
*I G Peck b Reeve	9
T A Cottorell b Reeve	0
A D H Grimes not out	5
P Garlick c Parker b Reeve	0
Extras (b 5, l-b 3)	8
Total ()	156

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-88, 3-101, 4-120, 5-140, 6-140, 7-143, 8-143, 9-156, 10-156.

BOWLING: le Roux 12-4-24-1; Jones 10-1-29-0; Reeve 21.1-10-22-5, Barclay 15-6-20-1; C M Wells 6-1-16-1; Greig 27-13-37-2.

Umpires H D Bird and J Birkenshaw.

Cullinan's last stand briefly revives Oxford

THE PARKS: Somerset, with six second innings wickets in hand, are 380 runs ahead of Oxford University.

Somerset's left-arm, medium pace bowler, Mark Davis, took six for 82 and Oxford's South African wicketkeeper, Mark Cullinan, scored 59, both career bests, the highlights of a day which ended with Somerset well on top.

Davis took the first five wickets for 52 as Oxford, 53 for two overnight in reply to Somerset's 365 for one declared, lost seven for 86. Cullinan and Hewitt added 48 for the eighth wicket.

SOMERSET: First Innings 365 for 1 dec (P M Roebuck 152 not out, J G Wyatt 103, M D Crowe 100 not out).

Second Innings

N F M Popplewell c Lawrence b Turnbull	50
P W Denning c Edbrooke b Carr	49
J W Lloyds c Carr b Lawrence	18
*V J Marks not out	45
†T Gard c Turnbull b Miller	8
C H Dredge not out	7
Extras (b 6, l-b 5)	11
Total (4 wkts)	186

P M Roebuck, J G Wyatt, M D Crowe, M R Davis and P H L Wilson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-93, 2-110, 3-144 4-163.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings

A J T Miller c Crowe b Davis	0
R M Edbrooke c Gard b Davis	7
G J Toogood c Dredge b Crowe	28
J G Franks c Roebuck b Davis	28
D A Thorne l-b-w b Davis	2
*K A Hayes c Dredge b Davis	0
J D Carr c Lloyds b Crowe	15
† M R Cullinan c Crowe b Davis	59
S G P Hewitt c Popplewell b Marks	22
M P Lawrence l-b-w b Marks	1
J R Turnbull not out	2
Extras (b 2, l-b 3, n-b 2)	7
Total ()	171

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-17, 3-57, 4-69, 5-69, 6-75, 7-99, 8-134, 9-146, 10-171

BOWLING: Davis 20.2-5-82-6; Wilson 3-1-4-0; Dredge 11-5-32-0; Marks 12-6-5-2; Crowe 18-9-22-2; Popplewell 5-1-6-0; Lloyds 6-3-13-0.

Umpires. M D Heath and A G T Whitehead.

GOLF

The omens look good for Miss Douglas

By Mitchell Platts

Kitrina Douglas shared the lead with the former United States Curtis Cup golfer Lori Castillo following the second round of the £20,000 Ford Ladies Classic at Woburn Golf and Country Club yesterday.

Miss Douglas, the former British champion, took 75, two strokes more than Miss Castillo. Each has a half-way aggregate of 148, which is two under par, and a one-stroke lead over the Sri Lanka champion, Tiru Fernando, who was round in 78.

Jennie Lee Smith, who led the WPGA order of merit in 1981 and 1982, remained in contact with a 74 for 150.

The omens are looking good for Miss Douglas. Persuaded to turn professional sooner rather than later, as she was "dumbfounded" by the decision of the Curtis Cup selectors to exclude her from this year's squad, she has made the transition from the amateur game in swinging style.

What is so impressive about Miss Douglas is that she has already learned to analyse her game in the manner of a professional. She accepted that putts would be missed on the variable greens and so refused to become frustrated when the opportunity of a birdie escaped. Instead, she patiently waited for the breaks to fall in her favour and, after dropping three shots in as many holes from the fourth, she was rewarded with four birdies in seven holes from the ninth.

"I'm really excited," she said. "I love seeing my name on top of the leader board. I want to keep it that way."

Miss Castillo has other ideas, the 23-year-old from Honolulu, who is playing in Britain by courtesy of Baume and Mercier, who are sponsoring a team of six Americans, arrived with a reputation that suggest she might enjoy a successful summer. She had a 73, even though she missed no fewer than five putts of six feet or less, so there can be no doubt about her potential. She strikes the ball much further than Miss Douglas, and since she missed only one fairway there can be little wrong with her directional sense.

Two shots dropped in the last three holes cost Miss Fenando the lead. Elsewhere Miss Lee Smith, who underwent an operation on a bone in her left foot only five weeks ago, gathered her birdies at four of the seven par-fives.

SECOND ROUND: (British and Irish unless stated): 148: K Douglas 73, 75; L Castillo (US) 75, 73. 149: T Fernando (Sri Lanka) 71, 78. 150: J Lee Smith 76, 74. 151: J Statham 78, 73; S Moon (US) 79, 72. 152: B Brandwyne (US) 75, 77; V Marvin 77, 75; V Marvin 77, 75; P Conley (US) 78, 74. 153: M Marshall (US) 79, 74. 154: M Walker 78, 76; J Smith 77, 77. 155: S Borman 81, 74; M Thomson 83, 72; S Strudwick 80, 75; J Forrest 81, 74, R Hast (US) 77, 78. 156: J Lawrence 80, 76.

IN BRIEF

Tanner to play at Beckenham

Roscoe Tanner, of the United States, a former Wimbledon finalist, hopes to have recovered from an elbow operation in time to play at the international tennis tournament, sponsored by the Kentish Times, at Beckenham, from June 4 to 10. Tanner is among the early entries for the men's singles, along with two other American players, Mike Bauer and Robert Van't Hof.

In the women's singles, Barbara Potter, also from the United States, runner-up to Billie Jean King last year, returns for another assault on the title.

● British umpires are to be asked by the LTA not to attend the "Young Masters" tournament, to be held in Birmingham next January. The event is being promoted by Mark McCormack's International Management Group, and is being run the same week as the established world doubles championship at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Mansfield, voted into the League last month, yesterday made their first signing, appointing Mick Blacker, the Warrington stand-off, as their player-coach. Blacker, who began his career with Bradford Northern, was player-coach at Halifax for two years, until June 1982. He moved to Warrington last year as a player.

BOXING: The undefeated American, Donald Curry, will defend his WBA welterweight title against Nino La Rocca, of Italy, in Monte Carlo on July 14. It will be his fourth championship defence; he has beaten 14 of his 19 opponents within the distance.

FOOTBALL: Sutton United are offering a reward for information leading to the recovery of the Surrey Senior Cup, which has been stolen with other trophies, following a break-in at the club. The solid silver trophy, hallmarked "London 1846", was valued at £2,600 in 1982.

GOLF: Steady rain caused the postponement of yesterday's first round of the Italian open tournament at Monza. As a result, both the third and fourth rounds will be played on Sunday. If the rain continues, Sunday's two rounds will be put off until Monday.

MOTOR RALLYING: The Lancia team, led by the Italian, Attilio Bettega, filled the first three places yesterday after the opening phase of the Tour of Corsica, the fourth round of the world championship.

After five special stages, Bettega's total time was 1hr 45min 43sec, with fellow Italian, Maurizio Biason, 30 sec behind, and the Finn, Markku Alen, third, 1min 19sec behind Bettega.

CYCLING: The Irishman Sean Kelly, fresh from his triumph in Sunday's Tour of North-West Switzerland, and the French rider, Bernard Hinault, are among a top-class field for the Zurich championships on Sunday. There is a field of 140 professionals and more than 1,000 amateurs.

WRESTLING: Frank Andersson, Sweden's Greco-Roman Olypic medal hope in the light-heavywitht category, will undergo an operation on a torn ligament in his left shoulder in Gothenburg today. Andersson says he will be ready to resume training in three weeks' time.

BASKETBALL: Art Wearren, the 6ft 10in Sunderland centre, a late selection for the All Star select, has gone missing. He was last seen on Tuesday in Sunderland. The English Basketball Association would like anyone with information on his whereabouts to contact them.

SNOOKER

Optical illusions as those Irish jokes fail to materialize

By Sydney Friskin

In more relaxed circumstances Dennis Taylor can regale his audience not only with a variety of trick shots but also a string of Irish jokes. He caused a sensation two seasons ago when he emerged with his enormous lenses, which were by no means a joke.

The few optical illusions he had at the start of his semi-final of the world professional championships sponsored by Embassy, at Sheffield yesterday against Steve Davis, caused him to miss easy reds, which usually left Davis, the title-holder, in favourable positions, though he did not capitalize on all of them. At the end of the first period of this 31-frame match, which will be continued today, Davis led 4-3.

There was one occasion early in the fourth frame when Davis seized a chance and started a red-and-black sequence which, judged by the position of the balls, could have hinted at a 147 break. But alas, when Davis came to 52 an attempted red into a side pocket did not materialize.

This was the frame which Davis should have won, but a winning sequence ended when he missed the green, which he left over a corner pocket. Taylor cleared every ball up to the pink to level at 2-2.

Davis, scoring with smooth and graceful cue action, shot into a 4-2 lead with breaks of 45 and 39 in the sixth frame. Leading 52-32, he should have won the seventh but, having taken the last red, he failed to sink a black and Taylor came in for a difficult clearance break of 34.

There is a prize of £4,000 for the highest break of the tournament. The best so far, 138, stands to the credit of Rex Williams, the chairman of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, who achieved this feat in the first round when he lost to Jimmy White. Four other players have so far crossed the hundred mark, Ray Reardon (109), Dennis Taylor (102), Kirk Stevens (101), and Steve Davis (100).

Taylor had earned his place in the semi-finals after his victory by 13-8 on Wednesday night over the Welsh champion, Doug Mountjoy. When he was leading 10-5, Taylor ran into a spell of obduracy from the Welshman, who won sixteenth and seventeenth frames. These were the highest breaks of the match, Taylor's best being 64 in the tenth frame and 65 in the eighteenth. But Taylor was the more consistent scorer and at no time was Mountjoy in the lead.

If Taylor loses his semi-final, he can at least be sure of a cheque for £12,000. More important to him however, is the thought that he has done sufficiently well, as indeed Mountjoy has, to retain his place among the first 16 in the world. At the start of the World Championships Taylor was in danger of losing this position.

Quarter-final: D Taylor (NI) bt D Mountjoy (Wales) 13-8. Frame scores (Taylor first): 76-39, 66-75, 80-27, 68-41, 60-57, 13-60, 81-40, 72-47, 22-28, 92-46, 37-60, 69-49, 61-58, 18-74, 100-36, 25-106, 8-100, 74-30, 70-15, 21-88, 71-58.

SEMI-FINAL: S Davis (Eng) leads D Taylor (NI), 4-3 (continues this morning).

RUGBY LEAGUE

United set for replay

By Keith Macklin

If tomorrow's Challenge Cup Final between Widnes and Wigan is drawn, the replay will, for the first time ever, be at Old Trafford, home of Manchester United. Wednesday, May 16, has been set aside for a replay in order to give clubs the opportunity to get the premiership final out of the way on Saturday, May 12.

There are ample precedents for the League's decision to take a replay to Old Trafford. When the 1982 final at Wembley between Hull and Widnes ended in a draw, the replay went to Elland Road, Leeds United's ground, and produced a marvellous atmosphere and an attendance topping 40,000.

Major rugby league matches have also been played at Maine Road and Boothferry Park with resounding success, and Old Trafford is an obvious choice because it is a short journey from both Widnes and Wigan.

In the event of a replay, the seven tourists involved in the game will be flown out to Australia a week after the main party. They are Burke, Lydon, Gregory, O'Neill, Adams, and Myler of Widnes, and Case of Wigan.

Kevin Ashcroft, the Warrington coach, has quit the club by mutual agreement with the board of directors. Although Warrington finished third in the championship table, they lost their last three games

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Chicago White Sox 3, New York Yankees 0; Cleveland Indians 9, Baltimore Orioles 7; Boston Red Sox 5, Detroit Tigers 4; Texas Rangers 6, Toronto Blue Jays 4; Oakland A's 7, California Angels 6; Minnesota Twins 8, Seattle Mariners 6. Postponed: Milwaukee Brewers v Kansas City Royals.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Francisco Giants 4, Los Angeles Dodgers 3; New York Mets 4, Chicago Cubs 3; Montreal Expos 3, Philadelphia Phillies 2; St Louis Cardinals 3, Pittsburgh Pirates 1; Cincinnati Reds 3, Houston Astros 2. Postponed: Atlanta Braves v San Diego Padres.

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal 8, Swindon 0; QPR 1, Fulham 0.

ROMANIAN LEAGUE: Bucharest 6, Petrosani Jiul 2; Bucharest Rapid 0, Craiova Universitatea 0; Baia Mare 1, Bucharest Steaua 0; Ploiesti Petrolul 2, Rimnicu Vilcea Chimia 0; CSU Dunarea 3, Hunedoara Corvinul 1; Iasi Politehnia 2, Arges 1; Tirgoviste CS 1, Sportul Studentesc 5; Olt 4, Bihor 1; Tirgu Mures Asa 3, Bacau SC 1.

BOXING

NAIROBI: African super-bantamweight championship: Modesty Odouri Napunyi (Ken) bt Obele Anazor (Nigeria), pts.

KARLSRUHE: Inter-cup amateur competition: quarter-finals: Light-heavyweight: T Spuergin (WG) bt E Ciftic (Turk), pts; M Picka (Cz) bt K Lloyd (US), pts, U Agbonoga (Nigeria) bt L Mills (US), pts; M Bott (WG) bt I Youssef (Eg). 1st. Featherweight: N Talpos (Rom) bt T Aykac (Turk), 2nd; D Slavtechev (Bul) bt J Kaestner (WG), pts; G Oprisar (Rom) bt A Urkal (Turk), pts; G Koley (Bul) bt A Sininski (WG), pts. Light-middleweight: M Zielonka (WG) bt H Hafiz (Eg), pts; C D'Antignac (US) bt M Franek (Cz), pts; M Takov (Bul) bt S Hranek (Hung), pts; A Espinosa (Cuba) bt G Simion (Rom), 3rd.

GOLF

Hill Samuel Schools Foursomes: First round: Rossall 2½, King Edwards, Lytham, ½.

Second round: Sherborne 2, Downside 1; Shrewsbury 3, Cheltenham 0; Monmouth 3, Worcester RGS 0; Tonbridge 2, St Dunstans 1, Merchant Taylors' Northwood 2, Latymer Upper 1; Hampton 2, St Paul's 1; Bristol GS 3, Exeter 0.

TENNIS

LAUSANNE: Men's Grand Prix Tournament: Second round: Z Kuharsky (stateless) bt A Jarryd (Swe), 5-7, 6-3, 6-3; S Edberg (Swe) bt H Solomon (US), 6-2, 6-7, 6-4; P Lundgren (Swe) bt S Mayer (US), 6-3, 6-2; H Gunthardt (Switz) bt M Krippendorf (Switz), 6-3, 6-3; R Stadler (Switz) bt J Carlsson (Swe), 1-6, 6-2, 6-1; J Soares (Br) bt Y Hesse (Fr), 6-4, 6-1.

QUEEN'S CLUB: LTA tournament: Semi-finals: R Lewis bt N Fulwood 4-6, 7-5, 6-4; J Feaver bt M Walker 7-5, 4-6, 6-4. Final: Lewis bt Feaver 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Play-off: Boston Celtics 116, New York Knicks 102, (Boston lead series 2–0). Phoenix Suns 102, Utah Jazz 97. (Teams level 1–1 in series).

LUXEMBOURG: Men's European Championship: Qualifying tournament: Algeria 83, Wales 57 (Hughes 24, Freemen 16); Austria 96, Cyprus 82; Bulgaria 102, Luxembourg 57. Final standings: Bulgaria 10pts; Luxembourg 8; Austria 8, Algeria 7, Cyprus 7, Wales 5.

SQUASH

HONGKONG: Invitation tournament: First Round: M Saad (Eg) bt S Davenport (NZ), 9-2, 9-7, 9-0; G Briars (GB) bt G Alauddin (Pak), 10-8, 9-1, 10-8; R Norman (NZ) bt Kent Li (HK) 9-5, 9-1, 10-8; C Dittmar (Aus), bt Fahim Gul (Pak) 9-4, 9-3, 9-3.

SWIMMING

SEOUL: Asian Championships: 1 China; 2 Japan; 3 Hongkong.

RACING

Taunton card

GOING: hard

6.0 MOTORWAY SELLING HURDLE (£410: 2m 1f) (5 runners)

1	032	Blackboosh 5-11-6	Mr M Bosley 7
2	300	Lilt High (B) 5-11-6	B Powell 4
4	002	Big Spiel 4-11-1	P Leach
6	142	Middleton Sue 5-11-1	S Earle 7
7	004	Nestor Man (B) 4-11-1	C Warren 7

6-4 Blackboosh, 9-4 Big Spiel, 4 Middleton Sue, 11-2 Nestor Man.

6.30 PETER BLACKBURN NOVICE CHASE (£1,383: 2m 3f) (11)

5	p4p	Bargalle Son (B) 7-11-11	M Yeoman 7
6	p0p	Britannicus 8-11-11	J Hurst 7
10	483	Owen Glendower 7-11-11	P Richards
13	0p6	Captain Pat 8-11-4	C Evans 7
14	00p	Chuck's Song 7-11-4	C Gray
15	000	Fenkle 6-11-4	P Leach
18	0-12	Mariner's Log 8-11-4	A Webber
19	pp0	Mr Mallon 7-11-4	R Hoare
21	303	Summer Frolic 7-11-4	B De Haan
25	3f1	The Pale Warrior 5-11-3	NON-RUNNER
26	030	Do Wish 8-10-13	Mr A Jones

8-11 Mariner's Log, 3 Summer Frolic, 9-2 Owen Glendower, 7 Do Wish.

7.0 HUMBERTS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,368: 2m 3f) (8)

2	p22	Crown Land 9-11-7	S Smith-Eccles
5	00-0	Black Earl 7-10-9	K Mooney
6	130	Miss Saddler 6-10-6	Christine Young 7
7	a0-0	Rockfield Boy 7-10-2	R Goldstein
12	p00	Swift Encounter 5-10-0	R Milman 4
14	p4p	[illegible] (BF) 6-10-0	E [illegible]
15	884	Testing Times 6-10-0	Miss S Waterman
17	000	Rasles 6-10-0	Miss T Turner 7

15-8 Crown Land, 9-4 Testing Times, 7-2 Miss Saddler, 13-2 Black Earl.

7.30 WEDMORE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,724: 3m 1f) (10)

2	4-02	Marchant 12-11-7	P Scudamore
3	0-21	Citadel Rec 9-11-5 (7 ex)	G Davies
5	fpp	Corby Wood 10-11-1	Mr N Babbage 4
7	202	Kars 8-10-11	S Morshead
8	024	Autoway 11-10-9	George Knight
10	004	Son Of Dollar 8-10-5	Jessica Turner 7
11	pp2	Hazbalat 9-10-0	B Powell 4
13	000	Friar Tuck 8-10-0	S McNeill
14	0fp	Mist 7-10-0	M O'Halloran
15	p02	Said 10-10-0	R Milman 4

2 Citadel Rec, 11-4 Kars, 100-30 Marchant, 5 Autoway.

8.0 MAY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£966: 2m 1f) (13)

3	000	Spark Off 8-11-7	G Pope
6	201	Far-Kil 8-11-4 (5 ex)	
12	000-	Tidy Work 9-10-3	B Powell
13	483	Snowy Boadicea 5-10-3	P Clark
15	120	Magic Mink 4-10-0	N Coleman
17	00p	Colonel Curtis 5-10-0	P Croucher
18	000	Busy Fern 6-10-0	J Brown
19	p0b	Warwick Bloe (B) 4-10-0	NON RUNNER
20	p03	Waltzer 13-10-0	G Charles-Jones
21	00p	Last Valley 7-10-0	L Bloomfield
22	p0/0	Mentelo 10-10-0	R Arnott
24	003	Mickey Tim 7-10-0	Jessica Turner
25	p00	Millie Jean 7-10-0	F Byrne

3 Far-Kil, 7-2 Snowy Boadicea, 9-2 Magic Mink, 6 Waltzer.

8.30 MARTOCK NOVICE HURDLE (4-y-o: £452: 2m 1f) (9)

3	1	Think On 11-10	R Campbell 4
4	021	Paddys Belle 11-5	S Earle 7
5	001	Sandy Looks 11-5	NON-RUNNER
6	00	Clever Angle 11-0	S Morshead
7	043	Conor's Rock (B) 11-0	B Powell 4
9	0	Little Ben 11-0	M Yeoman 7
11	p0b	Warwick Bloe (B) 11-0	NON RUNNER
16	0	Patination 10-9	S McNeill
17	0fp	Speed Up 10-9	K Mooney

11-10 Conor's Rock, 7-2 Think On, 11-2 Paddy's Belle, 10 Clever Angle.

TAUNTON SELECTIONS: (By Mandarin) 6.0 Big Spiel. 6.30 Mariner's Log. 7.0 Black Earl. 7.30 Kars. 8.0 Snowy Boadicea. 8.30 Paddys Belle.

Hereford results

Going: Firm.

2.15 (2m 4f hurdle) 1, Hatton Glory (B Powell, 8-13 fav); 2, Gray (11-8). 25l. 2 ran. D R Tucker. Tote: £1.10.

2.45 (7m hurdle) 1, Rainbow Springs (S McNeill 11-10 fav); 2, Hilal Sovereign (4-1); 3, Dusty Dora (25-1). 30l, 10l. 7 ran. NR: Treagle. D Tucker. Tote: £2.60, £1.20, £1.70. DF: £4.10. CSF: £5.23.

3.15 (7m 4f chase) 1, Kyoto (S Smith Eccles, evens fav); 2, Dance Master (9-4); 3, Oulart Hill (5-1). 12l, 4l. 4 ran. J R Jenkins. Tote: £1.80. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.35. Bought in 1,400 gns.

3.45 (3m 1f hurdle) 1, Rodney Parade (Mr S Sherwood, 2-1 fav); 2, Free Choice (9-2); 3, Last of The Foxes (20-1). 15l, 1l. 14 ran. NR Helton Tarn. J R Jenkins. Tote £3.00; £2.20, £1.30, £3.60. DF: £10.10. CSF £11.51. Tricast: £126.62.

4.15 (3m 1f chase) 1, Damn Fax (A Webb, 6-4 jt-fav); 2, French Bob (8-1); 3, Sweet Mandy (6-4 jt-fav). 6l, 20l. 3 ran. P H Duggins. Tote: £1.70. DF: £2.50. CSF: £4.87.

4.45 (2m 4f chase) 1, Robert (Mr C Gee, 6-4 fav); 2, Berarden (11-2); 3, Straight Line (9-4). 1½l, 15l. 12 ran. C M Gee. Tote: £3.50; £2.00 £1.90, £1.70. DF: £7.00. CSF: £10.26.

5.15 (2m flat) 1, Celtic Bob (M Caswell 11-8 jt-fav); 2, Cheeky Tico (25-1); 3, Bearcone (25-1). Face the Climate (11-8 jt-fav). 5l, 8l. 11 ran. NR Son Glare. O O'Neill. Tote: £2.10; £1.00, £4.90, £8.00. DF: £12.90. CSF: £32.85. Placepot: £5.85.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Le Vert Galant, Molesbe, Aunt Ferry, Revelling, Red Gallo, Christmas Gorse, Arcandeer, Tye Park, Avondale Princess.

RACING: MAHOGANY ONLY SIXTH AS ROBINSON RIDES FIRST CLASSIC WINNER

Pebbles comes sailing home for Capt Lemos

By Michael Seely

Pebbles gave Captain Marcos Lemos his first home-bred classic winner when winning the 1,000 Guineas, sponsored by General Accident, at Newmarket yesterday. This was the second classic triumph for both the Greek shipping magnate and Clive Brittain, his trainer, the pair having previously won the 1978 St Leger with Julio Mariner.

Phillip Robinson, aged 23, excelled himself on his first classic winner. Meis-el-Reem made the early running with Capricorn Belle, Glowing With Pride, Miss Silca Key and Mahogany all well placed. Pebbles was being restrained a few lengths behind the leaders.

At the bushes Joe Mercer asked Mahogany to go and win her race. Shoot Clear and Pebbles were also improving. "I suddenly saw that the favourite was struggling, so I thought it was time to set sail", Robinson said afterwards.

The response was immediate. Lengthening her stride magnificently, Pebbles quickened and went clear. She beat Meis-el-Reem by three lengths with the strongly-finishing Desirable a neck away, third. Then came lions. And I have no worries about her hankling the Epsom gradients. She moves like a cat and can change legs in mid-air," Brittain said. The trendily-dressed trainer would certainly have made a colourful journalist. The Tote have made Pebbles favourite at 8-1 for the Oaks. They then go 10-1 Kanz, and 16-1 Elusive.

Claude Monet's price for the Derby shortened to 8-1, second favourite with Alphabatim, after Daniel Wildenstein's Affirmed colt had beaten Raami by a head in the Heathorn Stakes. Steve Cauthen took matters a shade easily after taking up the running two furlongs from home and there might have been ructions if Claude Monet had been defeated. Nevertheless, the running of Raami, who was conceding 6lb to the winner, certainly paid a striking compliment to Keep, his Kempton conqueror.

Henry Cecil was delighted with this performance. "Claude Monet went to sleep in the lead. He'll now go for the Mecca-Dante Stakes at York." The colt missed five days' work after nicking a near-hind joint when

1,000 Guineas result in full

3.40 GENERAL ACCIDENT 1,000 GUINEAS STAKES (Group I: 3-y-o fillies: £87,009: 1m)

PEBBLES ch f by Sharpen Up – La Dolce (Capt M Lemos) 9-0 P Robinson (8-1) 1

Meis El-Reem b f by Auction Ring – Tavella (B Choucair) 9-0 A Lequeux (25-1) 2

Desirable gr f by Lord Gayle – Balidaress (Mrs J Corbett) 9-0 S Cauthen (8-1) 3

Also Ran: 16 Shoot Clear (4th), 25 Betsy Bay (5th), 6-5 fav Mahogany (6th), 11 Capricorn Belle, 14 Seattle Siren, 16 Miss Beaulieu, 25 Glowing With Pride, 50 Rocket Alert, 66 Miss Silca Key, Mystery Ship, 100 Maruthayoor, 200 Cambridge Lodge. 15 ran. 3l, nk, ½l, 3l, nk. C Brittain at Newmarket.

TOTE: Win: £5.90. Places: £2.00, £10.70, £1.70. DF: £139.70. CSF: £152.98. 1m 38.18 sec.

Shoot Clear with Mahogany back in sixth place. "There were no excuses", Mercer said about the 11-10 favourite. "She had every chance, but nothing happened".

Captain Lemos has been involved in British racing since 1964 and bought the Ashley Heath stud just outside Newmarket in 1968. "I am delighted", he said. "Pebbles quickened so well that I think we'll have to have a go at the Oaks".

Pebbles has always been inclined to become excited before her races and yesterday proved no exception. "I saddled her in the car park where she was very quiet," the trainer said. "But she swung round and banged the rails when being led onto the track, so I walked beside her in the parade."

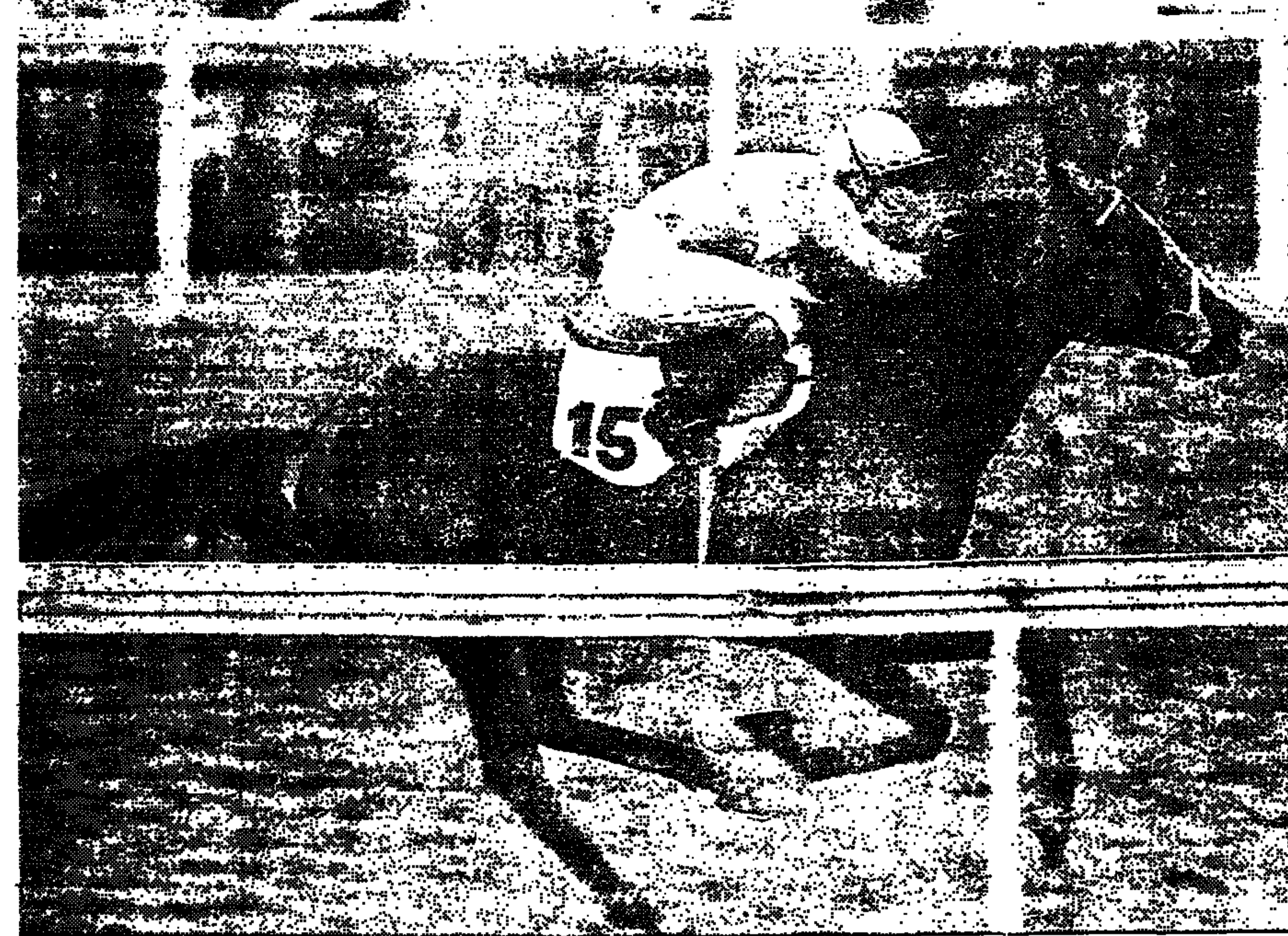
Despite the fact that Pebles is sired by Sharpen Up, she is out of La Dolce, who finished fifth in the Oaks. Her trainer is therefor optimistic that Pebbles will stay the mile and a half of the Oaks.

"With the same blood as Connaught and Crepello, she is bound to be excitable. But when the mixture clicks, they run like being loaded-up after working on the racecourse side eight days ago. Claude Monet certainly has enormous potential but, judged on what he has accomplished to date, he stands at a short price compared with El Gran Señor, Alphabatim and Rainbow Quest, who surely boast stronger credentials.

Raami finished in the style of a colt who is sure to win good races later in the season "He's in the Irish Derby, Bill O'Gorman said "but the Mecca bookmakers Scottish Derby would probably be a more suitable race.

● Greville Starkey will miss the ride on Lear Fan in tomorrow's 2,000 Guineas. Starkey had already been forced to give up the ride on Miss Beaulieu in yesterday's 1,000 Guineas because of neck injuries he received in a fall from Silken Record at Kempton 12 days ago.

Treatment at Harley Street has failed to relieve the trapped nerve, and yesterday morning Guy Harwood, Lear Fan's trainer, said: "Greville will be out for a further two weeks. Brian Rouse will ride Lear Fan in the Guineas."



Classic queen: Pebbles streaks away from her rivals in yesterday's 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Sangster to sue Lloyd's

By Michael Seely

Robert Sangster, the world's leading racehorse owner and breeder, is to sue Lloyd's of London for more than £4m. The insurers are refusing to pay his claim for money owing after the death of Golden Fleece, the 1982 Derby winner, from cancer at the Coolmore Stud in Ireland last month.

"All non-Lloyd's insurers have already paid up," Mr Sangster said. "We estimate that half the indemnity was covered elsewhere. Lloyd's claim that the refusal is for technichal reasons, but if they think I'm a criminal, I'd rather they came out and said so".

"Golden Fleece had cancer last July, but recovered quickly. I booked 24 mares to the stallion on the thirtyfirst of that month, which I'd have been the world's biggest idiot to do if I thought he was dying.

Mr Sangster pointed out that when Golden Fleece was operated on for cancer in December the operation was approved and sanctioned by Lloyd's. "I think the whole thing is monstrous. I can only hope that common sense and reason will prevail. I've always had a reputation for fair dealing. I'm so angry that unless the claims are paid, I will have no hesitation in moving the entire insurance on my worldwide bloodstock investments from London to New York."

Salmon Leap can take revenge

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Salmon Leap can get the weekend off to a good start for Vincent O'Brien and Pat Eddery by winning the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon. Although he finished three lengths behind Carlingford Castle in last year's Derby, Salmon Leap is taken to reverse the form today because the Rowley Mile course is likely to suit him far better than Epsom with all its twists and gradients.

Furthermore, Salmon Leap enters the fray with the advantage of having had a previous race this season whereas Carlingford Castle, who is notoriously lazy at home, has not won since last year's St Leger. Then, too, Carlingford Castle would prefer it much softer underfoot.

Those observations aside, the main rason for going for Salmon Leap now is his breathtaking performance in last year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Much nearer last than first, turning into Longchamp's comparatively short straight, he finished with such gusto that he was less than two lengths behind the winner, All Along, at the end.

Gay Lemur, Dazari and Jupiter Island meet on the same terms as they did at Newbury last month when they finished first, second and fourth, respectively, in the John Porter Stakes. On that occasion there was only a short head between the first two. Band, Dick Hern's runner, ended last season by finishing second in both the French and Irish St Legers. A mile and a half could easily prove too short for him.

Looking at the rest of today's programme it is hard to escape the view that the five runners from Michael Stoute's successful local stable will all give their backers a good run. Dazari is their hope for the main race; Top Socialite and Chantaco their fancied runners for the two races confined to two-year-olds; Rowa a leading contender for the Pretty Polly Stakes; and Tapping Wood my selection for the Burwell Handicap.

Top Socialite is selected to win the Wilbraham Maiden Stakes on the strength of encouraging reports about the speed that she has shown in her preparatory work, speed that is very much linked to her pedigree. However, I cannot help wondering whether even Chantaco will be able to outpace **Que Sera** in the Chevington Stakes, even though he won nicely at Nottingham. I was most impressed by the way that Que Sera strode up the hill to win at the last Newmarket meeting a fortnight ago.

With Triagonal, Cassandra, Mpani, Sandy Island and Strident Note also standing their ground for the Pretty Polly Stakes, **Rowa** faces a difficult task. Yet I am tempted to give this sister to those two good fillies, Roussalka and Our Home, another chance even at this level because she looked so unlucky not to win at Salisbury at the beginning of last month. In the meantime her homework has continued to scintillate.

Sandy Island, who finished fifth behind Mahogany here last autumn, is another who has been pleasing in her gallops of late. She may need further than a mile and a quarter, though to be seen at her best.

NEWMARKET (ITV)

[Televised: (C4) 2.35, 3.5, 3.40, 4.10]

GOING: good to firm

Draw: No advantage

Tote double: 3.5, 4.10. Treble: 2.35, 3.40, 4.40

2.0 WILBRAHAM MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £3,038: 5f) (12 runners)

102		DARLING DAUGHTER (J Greetham) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-11	G Duffield	6
103	04	DORCHESTER GIRL (Mrs M Lockwood) D Morley 8-11	B Rouse	7
104	0	FRAULEIN TOBIN (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) B Hills 8-11	S Cauthen	2
106		JOLI'S GIRL (P Prebble) M Ryan 8-11	P Robinson	5
107	2	LADY DONNA (P Meradew) R Boss 8-11	Pat Eddery	9
109		MARCHING MOOR (R Prettie) B Hanbury 8-11	B Raymond	11
111		NORTHERN HOPE (R Whalley) P Kelleway 8-11	E Hide	1
112		ROCKET ROYALE (R Mohammed) E Eldin 8-11	A Mackay	10
113	3	SINGLE LOVE (Dr C Labreccioso) B Hanbury 8-11	L Piggott	3
114		SWIFT SPIRIT (G Beccle) J Winter 8-11	T Ives	8
115		THATCHVILLE (Lord Matthews) Mrs C Reavey 8-11	–	4
116		TOP SOCIALITE (T Tek Tan) M Stoute 8-11	W R Swinburn	12

1983: Be My Valentine 8-11 L Piggott (4-7 fav) H Cecil 7 ran.

15-8 Fraulein Tobin, 11-4 Lady Donna, 9-2 Top Socialite, 7 Single Love, 8 Northern Hope, 12 Darling Daughter, 15 others.

Newmarket selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Top Socialite. 2.35 Que Sera. 3.5 Miami Prince. 3.40 SALMON LEAP (nap). 4.10 Rowa. 4.40 Tapping Wood. 5.10 Respite.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Top Socialite. 2.35 Que Sera. 3.5 Susa Steel. 3.40 Simply Great. 4.10 Rowa. 4.40 Tapping Wood. 5.10 Respite.

By Michael Seely

3.40 Dazari. 4.10 Rowa. 4.40 TAPPING WOOD (nap).

2.35 CHEVINGTON STAKES (2-y-o: £3,074: 5f) (5)

203	01	AHONA (D) (Miss P Phoenix) N Tinkler 9-5	E Hide	1
205	11	QUE SERA (CD) (Mrs R Nurse) W O'Gorman 9-5	T Ives	2
207	1	HI-TECH GIRL (D) (Intercraft) P Makin 9-0	L Piggott	5
208	1	CHANTACO (D) (J Burns) M Stoute 9-0	W R Swinburn	3
221	43	SALOUM (Swinton Holdings) M Hinchliffe 8-11	P Wray	4

1983: Our Dynasty 9-8 Pat Eddery (9-4 fav) M Lambert 6 ran.

8-4 Que Sera, 9-4 Chantaco, 9-2 Ahona, 6 Hi-Tech Girl, 16 Saloum.

AHONA (8-11) got up to beat PROVIDEO (9-4) a head at Thirsk (5f, £2553, good Apr 14). QUE SERA (9-1) beat Padoue (8-11) 2 1/2l and had subsequent winner Fair Charter 12l back in 4th when Newmarket winner (5f, £2709, good to firm, Apr 19). HI-TECH-GIRL (8-11) beat Party Game (8-11) by 2l at Newbury (5f, £2914, good, Apr 14). CHANTACO (9-0) comfortable 2l Nottingham winner from Tuckford Hideaway (8-11) (5f, £978, firm, Apr 23). SALOUM (8-11) 3 3/4l 3rd to Primo Dominie (8-11) at Ascot (5f, £5637, firm, May 2).
Selection: QUE SERA.

3.5 BRITISH SUGAR SILVER SPOON HANDICAP (3-y-o: £8,207: 6f) (16)

301	0111-0	BOEZINGE (D) (Capt M Smyly) M Smyly 9-7	S Dawson 5	10
302	1002-00	ANY BUSINESS (D) (Mrs V Lewis) G Lewis 9-3	P Waldron	16
303	0200-00	AFRICAN ABANDON (C) (A Richards) C Brittain 9-2	L Piggott	9
305	24121-0	TIME MACHINE (T Waterman) J Winter 9-0	W R Swinburn	1
306	021-0	SATURNIAN (CD) (Lady Chelsea) W Hern 8-11	J Mercer	13
307	13-3	MUCH BLEST (J Lilley) G Wragg 8-8	Pat Eddery	2
308	12330-2	SUSA STEEL (R Takkoo) J Hindley 8-8	M Hills	7

3.40 JOCKEY CLUB STAKES (Group II: £22,380: 1m 4f) (8)

1983: Electric 4-8-10 W R Swinburn (12-1) M Stoute 11 ran.

5-2 Salmon Leap, 5 Dazari, 8 Gay Lemur, 13-2 Carlingford Castle, 10 Jupiter Island, 12 Band, 25 Current Raiser.

FORM: CARLINGFORD CASTLE (9-0) just under 3l 3rd to Sun Princess (8-11) with DAZARI (9-0) a further 19½l back in 8th (Doncaster 1m 6f, £81,980, soft, Sept 10). SALMON LEAP (9-7) ¾l 2nd to Erins Hope (9-4) (Phoenix Park 1m 2f, £4,140, soft, Apr 7). SIMPLY GREAT (9-6) 2½l 4th to Fine Sun (9-0) (Goodwood 1m 2f, £10,583, soft, May 17th). BAND (8-1) neck 2nd to Odd Country (9-3) (Longchamp 1m 7f, £27,447, firm, Oct 30). GAY LEMUR (8-8) short head winner from DAZARI (8-8) with JUPITER ISLAND (8-11) 1½l away in 4th (Newbury 1m 4f, £16,004, good, Apr 14). CURRENT RAISER (8-8) out of first 9 to Moon Jester (8-2) (Kempton 1m 4f, £4,188, good to soft, Apr 6).
Selection: SALMON LEAP.

4.10 PRETTY POLLY STAKES (3-y-o: fillies: £8,927: 1m 2f) (12)

501	1303-04	BRYONY ROSE (T Oxley) A Jarvis 9-2	Paul Eddery	12
503	03321-0	CHANNEL AFFAIR (J Bedford) P Cole 8-10	T Quinn	8
504	340-1	GALIGNANI (D) (Esal Commodities) P Kelleway 8-10	Pat Eddery	2
506	033-1	LITTLE NIECE (D) (J Haverhals) J Dunlop 8-10	B Rouse	5
507	13	MEDIA LUNA (D) (Roldvale Ltd) P Kelleway 8-10	G Duffield	5
509	4213-22	TRIAGONAL (P Goulandris) P Walwyn 8-10	J Mercer	7
511	3	CASSANDRA (B) (Lord Porchester) W Hern 8-5	T Ives	1
512	2	MPANI (Sir P Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-5	J Reid	11
513	0-2	ROWA (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-5	W R Swinburn	4
514	0-	SANDY ISLAND (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 8-5	L Piggott	10
515	000-	STRIDENT NOTE (E Moller) G Wragg 8-5	S Cauthen	3
516	0-0	WHY THE BUSTLE (Sir D Wills) B Hobbs 8-5	G Baxter	9

1983: Jolly Bay 8-5 Pat Eddery (13-2) J Tree 17 ran.

4.40 BURWELL HANDICAP (3-y-o: £5,306: 1m) (18)

... TEST OF TIME (8-10) out of first 9 to Royal Halo (Kempton 1m, £4,481, good to soft, Apr 6). LEYSH (8-2) 9th to Pagan Sun (7-9) (Doncaster 7f, £4,487, soft, Mar 24). CARO'S GIFT (8-12) weakened 2 out, 20l 5th to Risk All (8-6) (Kempton 1m 2f, £2,570, good to soft, Apr 6). TAPPING WOOD (9-0) short head winner from Incisive (9-0) (Beverley 1m, £1,412, good to soft, Apr 6).
Selection: CARO'S GIFT.

5.10 NEWMARKET CHALLENGE WHIP (3-y-o: 1m) (7)

1	0	DUNDY (Dr C Vittadini) P Walwyn 9-0	J Mercer	2
2	0	GULFLAND (Lord Cadogan) G Pritchard-Gordon 9-0	G Duffield	7
3	40	RESPITE (R Richmond-Watson) B Hobbs 9-0	G Baxter	1
4		TORY (Maj-Gen Sir J D'Avigdor-Goldsmid) J Dunlop 9-0	B Rouse	4
5	0-3	ZAYTOON (Maktoum Al Maktoum) J Ciechanowski 9-0	W R Swinburn	3
6	000-	TREKKING (B) (Lord Matthews) Mrs C Reavey 8-11	W Ryan 5	5
7	3-	VIEILLE FEMME (R Sangster) B Hills 8-11	S Cauthen	6

1983: Faith 9-0 P Cook (15-8) Thomson Jones 3 ran.

15-8 Zaytoon, 5-2 Respite, 7-2 Vieille Femme, 6 Tory, 9 Dundy, 12 others.

CARLISLE

GOING: firm

Draw advantage: High 5f, 6f

2.30 HIGH STILE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-y-o: £571: 5f) (7 runners)

4.0 BOW FELL MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (3-y-o: £1,181: 1m) (11)

4	02	DEAR LAURA G Huffer 8-11	M Rimmer	3
8	00-	JOCA T Fairhurst 8-11	R P Elliott	6
10	002-	LADY SEVILLE Denys Smith 8-11	D Leadbitter 7	5
11	00-00	LINPAC LEAF W Elsey 8-11	C Dwyer	7
14	00-	MILNSBRIDGE E Weymes 8-11	K Hodgson	4
27	23-00	SHERVANI (B) S Norton 8-11	J Lowe	2
29	0-0	SINGALONG LASS M Jarvis 8-11	S Young	1
		TAKACHIHO'S GIRL T Craig 8-11	N Carlisle	9
		THATCHOVA T Barron 8-11	S Keightley	10
		TIZZY D Arbuthnot 8-11	R Cochrane	8
		UDALE T Cuthbert 8-11	M Wood	11

... Laura, 3 Shervani, Tizzy, 8 Lady Seville, 10 Linpac Leaf, 12 ... 5 others.

Carlisle selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Akuna Matata. 3.0 Just Wilmur. 3.30 Nicky Nick. 4.0 Dear Laura. 4.30 Rabirius. 5.0 Harlyn Bay.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

3.30 Dark Mystique. 4.0 Dear Laura. 5.0 Tipo Style.

4.30 SCAFELL HANDICAP (2-y-o: £1,957: 1m 1f 80yd) (8)

CHRISMAL Denys Smith 9-7	M Fry	5
ARGUING J W Watts 9-4	N Connorton	8
NATINA-MAY T Fairhurst 9-1	R P Elliott	2
VIDEO BOOM R Hollinshead 8-13	S Parks	6
ROSINKA D Moorhead 8-11	–	3
THE MANOR E Alston 8-4	S P Griffiths 7	1
SKY MARINER C Tinkler 8-4	P Burke 7	7
RABIRIUS W Bentley 7-10	M Wood	4

... Rabirius, 11-4 Video Boom, 5 Chrismal, 8 Natina-May, 10 ...

5.0 GREAT GABLE STAKES (£767: 1m 4f) (9)

Newmarket results

Going: Good to firm

2.0 MAY MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o. C & G: £3,281: 5f)

ANDRIOS b c by Tyrnavos – Lefki (Mrs H Cambanis) 9-0 G Baxter (4-1) 1

Standing Order b c by Stanford – Ottoline (R McAuley) 9-0 B Raymond (10-1) 2

Sergius b c by Bustino – Fashion Club (K Bethel) 9-0 C Asmussen (25-1) 3

Also Ran: evens fav Master Crofter (4th), 12 Lyric Way (5th), 14 Mac's Reef (6th), Sakr, Teneron, 33 Fairstead Boy, Houst The Mainsail, Real Guilt. 11 ran. 1½l, 2l, ½, 1¼l, 2. B Hobbs at Newmarket. Tote win: £4.00. Places: £1.30, £2.20, £7.60. DF: £23.30. C.SF: £40.04. 1m 2.15 sec.

2.30 HASTING MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £4,074: 1m)

KARKAN b c by J. O. Tobin – Cajun Princess (A Salman) 9-0 A Clark (9-1) 1

Tocave ch c by Try My Best – Sun Lassie (Maktoum Al Maktoum) 9-0 L Piggott (10-11 fav) 2

Basia b c by Jaazeiro – Orchestration (Maj A Barlow) 9-0 J Matthias (33-1) 3

Also Ran: 7 Caro's Lad (4th), 10 Doubleton, 14 Fahdi, 16 Tha, 20 Scythe, 25 Woodcarver, Royal Recourse (5th), 33 Al Khawaaneq, Faans, Flodebay, Mighty Flutter (6th), Quickstep, Royal Charge, Stepping Out, The Villain, Tromeros, With A Lot. 20 ran. 3l, ¾l, 1l, 1½l, 2. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote win: £21.90. Places: £3.00, £1.50, £9.90. DF: £13.10. C.SF: £15.85. 1m 39.59 sec.

3.40 For full result 1,000 Guineas see above.

4.15 BRETBY HANDICAP (£5,371: 6f)

KORYPHEOS b g by He Loves Me – Silly Song (C Papaioannou) 5-7-8 R Ryan (7-1) 1

Remorseless b c by Accipiter – Joyeux Noel (Sheikh Mohammed) 4-8-7 G Baxter (5-2 fav) 2

Django br c by Music Boy – Young Memento (C Armstrong) 4-9-3 T Ives (8-1) 3

Also ran, 11-4 Matou (4th), 4 Doc Marten (5th), 20 Shanleys Style (6th), 25 Pentland Javelin. 7 ran. ¾l, 1½l, 2l, nk, 2l. P Mitchell at Epsom.

TOTE: Win: £5.90. Places: £2.40, £2.10. DF: £9.20. CSF: £22.16. 1m 13.01sec.

4.50 MARCH HANDICAP (£4,549: 2m)

PRINCE OF PEACE b g by Busted – Mial (Sheikh Mohammed) 4-9-2 L Piggott (11-8) 1

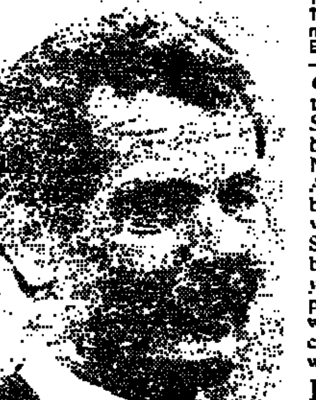
Shenton Way b c by Silver Saber – Recia(Miss W Redman) 4-7-8 T Williams (16-1) 2

Karablake b c by Blakeney – Karenina (Countess of Lonsdale) 4-8-8 A Clark (11-2) 3

Also Ran: 5 Dark Proposal, 15-2 Popsi's Joy (4th), 10 Pretty Picture, 14 Top Creator (6th), 33 Bellemuse (5th). 8 ran. Neck, 2l, 3l, 6l, ½. H Cecil at Newmarket.

TOTE. Win: £1.70. Places: £1.00, £4.90, £2.70 DF. £22.80. CSF: £19.58. 3m 28.60sec. TOTE DOUBLE: £24.85. TREBLE: £128.10. JACKPOT. Not won. Single winner bonus not won. PLACEPOT: £41.75.





Clive Brittain: second classic success with Pebbles

Course specialists

NEWMARKET

TRAINERS: H Cecil 89 winners from 315 runners 28.3%; M Stoute 48 from 327, 14.7%; B Hobbs 39 from 292, 13.4%.

JOCKEYS: L Piggott 115 winners from 512 rides 22.5%; J Mercer 56 from 401, 14.0%; T Ives 35 from 343, 10.2%.

CARLISLE

JOCKEYS: K Darley 7 winners from 70 rides 10.0%; K Hodgson 7 from 41, 17.1%; J Lowe 17 from 114, 14.9%

TRAINERS: J W Watts 14 winners from 63 runners 22.2%; S Norton 11 from 51, 21.6%; E Weymes 6 from 54, 11.1%

● Fulke Walwyn's training feat in the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown Park last Saturday has brought him the Piper Champagne N.H. trainer of the month award for April. Walwyn's feat in bringing back two horses out of action for virtually two years – the 11-year-old Special Cargo, the Queen Mother's biggest ever triumph, and the 13-year-old Diamond Edge, twice a previous winner of the Whitbread – will be rewarded with two cases of champagne and more than £200 worth of Courage beer for the stable.

Blinkered first time

CARLISLE: 4.0 Shervani. 5.0 Glittering Gem. NEWMARKET: 4.40 Aquarius Spirit. 5.10 Trekking.

NH card and results, page 22

also on page 27

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BMW 323i 84 A, Lapis, lux. pack, leather	£14,495
BMW 323i 83 Y, Henna alloys, fsh	£10,995
BMW 323i 83 A, Henna esr, alloys, pas	£11,995
BMW 323i 82 X, Sapphire msr, 5 speed, fsh	£7,495
BMW 316 83 Y, Polaris, msr, 5 speed	£7,995
BMW 318 83 Y, Sapphire, msr, 5 speed, fsh	£6,795
BMW 320 81 X, Opal, msr, 5 speed, fsh	£6,295
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518	83 A	Alpine/blue, sunroof, 5 o/d, power steering, stereo	£8,950
520i	83 Y	Burgundy/beige, sunroof, stereo, ex demo	£8,950
520i	83 A	Baltic/blue, sunroof, high spec, ex demo	£9,950
520iA	84 A	Opal/pine, sunroof, central locking, stereo, ex demo	£11,850
525 ETA	84 A	Saphire/blue, sunroof, alloy wheels, stereo, ex demo	£12,750
728iA SE	84 A	Opal/pine, special equipment, stereo, ex demo	£16,500
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82 X 520iA Polaris/Pacific, M.S.R. front electric windows, stereo, 21,750 miles £[illegible]
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83 Y 320i Alpine/Pacific, M.S.R. P.A.S. H.W/W. stereo radio/cassette, 16,000 miles £8,995
81 W 320 Cyprus/Beige, 5 speed, met paint, stereo, 22,300 miles £5,150
84 A 318i 2 door, White, alloys, C/locking, E/wind, M.S.R. fogs, 3,900 miles £8,250
84 A 318 iii Black/Anthracite, 5 speed, M.S.R. tinted glass, 1,000 miles £8,150
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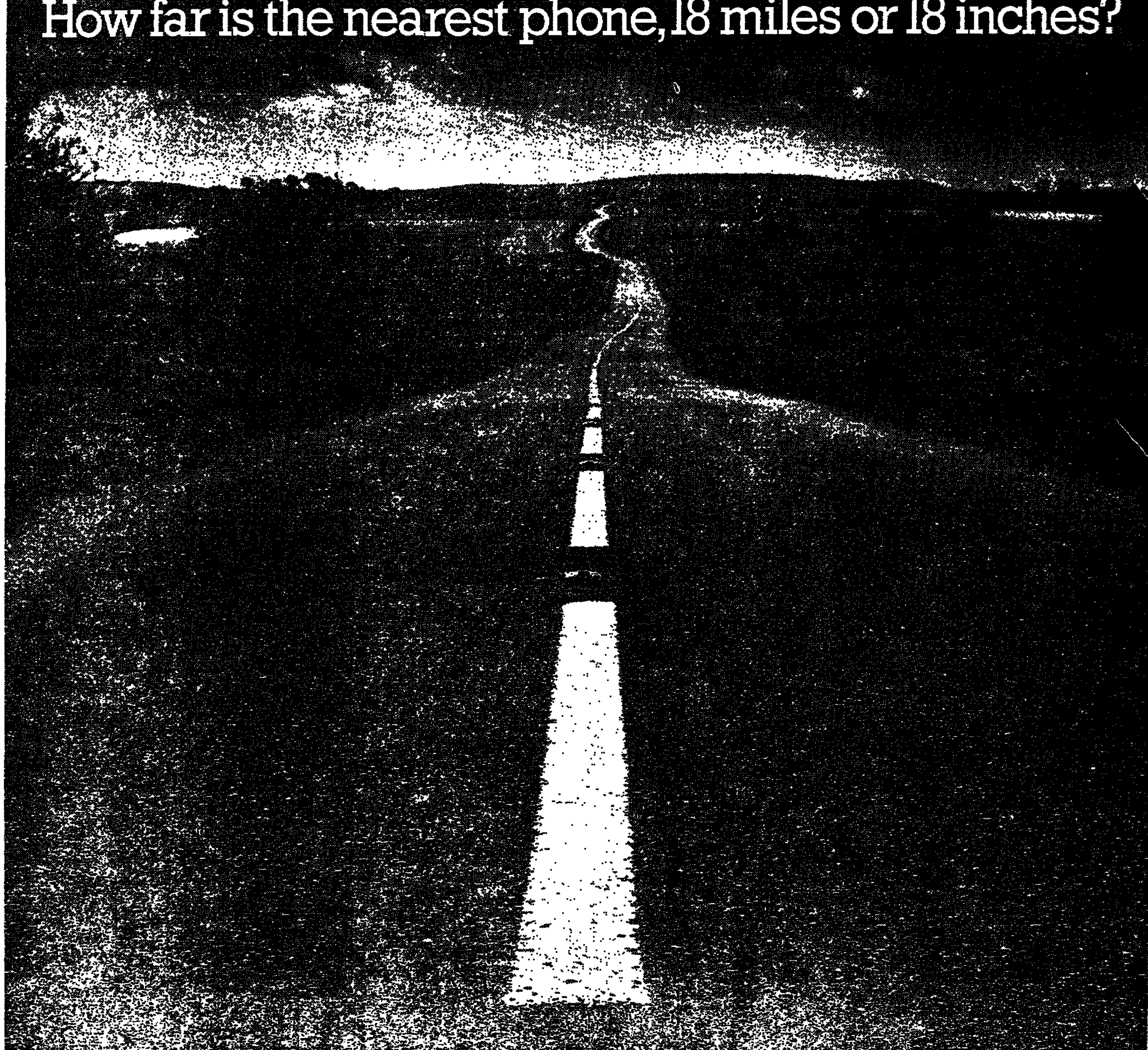
323i 81 (W), 5 speed, MSR alloys, 1 owner, 29,000 miles. FSH. £5,250. Tel 01-636 2076 (day). (0206) 262873 (eve).

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How often have you found yourself miles from anywhere and desperate to make an important call?

What do you do? Turn off and search for the nearest village with a call box?

Fill up at a garage that doesn't take your petrol card in order to use the payphone?

Stop at a pub for a soft drink you don't want in order to use the phone there?

And what if you're phoning a customer? You can hardly reverse charges, can you?

So you're going to have to beg, borrow or steal a pocket full of 10p pieces to stop yourself getting cut off in mid-sentence.

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The system is fully automatic now, so you can take calls directly from any telephone in Britain. You can also dial out directly to numbers both in Britain and overseas.*

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In other words, the time you spend in the car need no longer be time wasted.

It's worth considering exactly how long an annual mileage of 40,000 actually takes you to drive.

If you average 60mph it's close on 20 working weeks.

A long time in anyone's book to be out of touch with the world outside.

To find out more about the British Telecom Radiophone system dial 100 and ask for "Freefone Radiophone Sales" anytime, dial 0272 279852 direct, or send the coupon.

To: British Telecom Radiophone, 104, FREEPOST, London SW1W 8RL. Please provide me with full details of the British Telecom Radiophone Service.

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928 S. automatic, brown, August 1981. 27,000 miles. car in excellent condition.
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928 AUTO 1980 metallic gold, electric sunroof and seats, air conditioned, all usual extras. Immaculate, must be seen to appreciate. 38,000 miles, service history. £13,500. Tel 0243 822181 days. 862836 evenings.

PORCHE 911 SC COUPE '78. Cockney Brown. Tan pinstripe, new P6's, f.s.h., 1st class order throughout. £9,995. Usual facilities & exchanges. Woodbridge of Birmingham. 021 449 4227.

924 LUX 1983 red, sunroof, stereo, electric windows & mirrors. F.S.H. 9,500 miles, £10,600 Tel. (0329) 43669.

924 Silver, black int, sunroof, X reg, directors 2nd car, immaculate. £8,500, bargain, ring John Gorman, 254 4751.

944 1982 21,000 miles, 1 owner, full history, dark blue, finance & px poss. £12,450. Byfleet 62888 office hrs.

Wanted

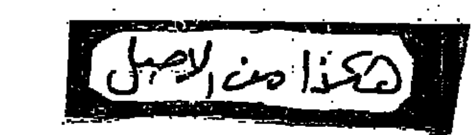
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SUZUKI'S – All models cash/bankers draft 0902 24119/28990(T).

Also on pages 25 and 27



Motoring by Clifford Webb

Daihatsu turbo leads on performance

Scepticism is a necessity for the motoring journalist who wants to serve the best interests of his readers. It is only by questioning the frequently embellished claims of the car manufacturers that we get to the truth.

Daihatsu recently introduced their new Charade 1 litre turbo with the headline- seeking statement: "This is the third time Daihatsu has achieved a world first with the Charade range. The Charade Turbo *stands alone in the market.* There is simply nothing to touch its performance and economy at anything near £5,000."

My *immediate reaction* was to check my price lists. Such claims are often based on a difference of a few pounds only. This time it was not only accurate but was even understated to the extent that its nearest rival, the MG Metro Turbo, was over £1,000 more expensive.

But the heart of the Charade is a tiny 993cc, all aluminium, 3 cylinder engine said to be the most economical in the world when it was introduced back in 1977. It has since been successfully converted into an extremely frugal diesel unit returning 72.3 mpg in a much publicised 102,000 kilometres drive by more than 3,000 ordinary motorists *starting in Japan and ending three* weeks ago in Britain.

But how would it convert to turbo charging? Surely such a small engine would inevitably become a high revving "buzz box" with plenty of power at the top of the range but be gutless at the bottom before the turbo came in.

And how would the lightweight Super Mini handle the extra power? My recollection of the standard Charade tested last summer was of a *rather skittish little car requiring* some degree of caution *especially in* rain.

I have just been finding out and I like what I found. The Charade Turbo is quite outstanding. The engine with its distinctive 3 cylinder throb quickly changing to a purposeful roar is revelation for its size. It reaches 100 mpg easily and cruises *happily* at 90 *mph.*

But getting off the mark is the Turbo's forte. I am fortunate enough to have the occasional use of off-road test facilities for some of the more sporty cars I drive. So impressive was the Charade's acceleration that I thought it necessary to use them and had a few surprised *glances* from *knowledgeable* motor engineers as I put it through its paces.

On the road big sweeping bends are taken in their stride at speed, providing they are well surfaced. But even moderate pot holes or repaired cross gullies cause a nasty lurch.

MacPherson struts at the front, anti-roll bars front and rear and generally beefed up suspension give the car a bumpy ride particularly when driven without passengers.

One of the more impressive aspects is the braking. The servo assisted discs at the front and drums *at the rear are well matched to the* enhanced performance. For the young family man hoping to combine bread and butter transport with excitement, the Charade Turbo is cheap to buy and cheap to run. I *average about 40 mpg.*

Vital statistics

Model: Charade 1 litre turbo.
Price: £4,999 in either three or five door versions.
Engine: 993 cc turbo charged 3 cylinder.
Performance: Max 101 mph, 0-60 mph 11.3 seconds.
Official consumption: Urban 37.7 mpg, 56 mph 56.5 mpg, 75 mph 38.2 mpg.
Length: 11.6 ft.
Insurance: Group 3.

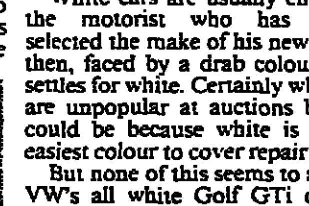
Daihatsu Charade Turbo: Quite outstanding

For the more conservative minded driver Daihatsu this week introduced a new top of the range *version of its Escort-sized Charmant,* LGX. Powered by the new 1,588 cc engine also in the Charmant LE, it offers a very full package of extras at the surprisingly cheap price of *£6,049.* It includes electric windows, power steering, deep bottomed cloth upholstery, a stereo cassette/radio, and rear seat belts.

It has a claimed top speed of 105 mph in 11.7 seconds and is said to be among the most economical in its class averaging 49.6 mpg at a steady 56 mph.

White winner

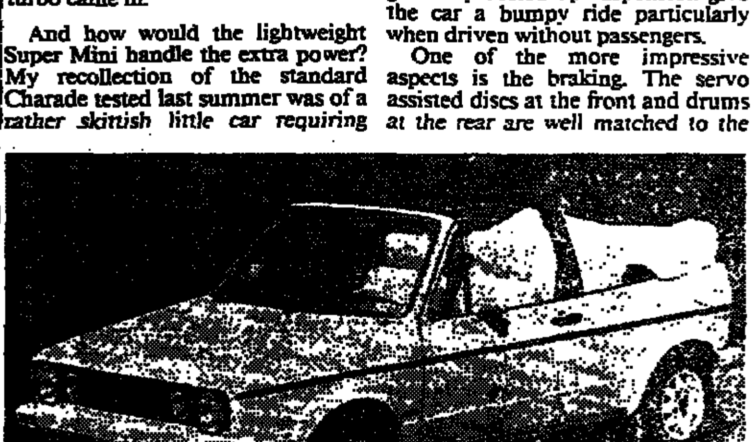
White cars are usually chosen by the motorist who has already selected the make of his new car and then, faced by a drab colour range, settles for white. Certainly white cars are unpopular at auctions but that could be because white is not the easiest colour to cover repair work.



But none of this seems to apply to VW's all white Golf GTi convertible. Everything is painted white including the hood, bumpers, wheels, and interior trim yet VW cannot keep up with demand.

Originally introduced early last year as a one-off edition limited to *400 in Britain, it was sold within* weeks. Not slow to realize it was on to a good thing, VW waited a few months for the model's exclusivity to make its mark and then built another 400.

They too sold immediately so now another 400 are on the way. Don't bother to rush round to your local VW dealer, however, the chances are that he already has a backlog of orders. That is not bad for a car which costs £8,997 and is based on the old Golf body: a new one arrived a couple of months ago. It does have the new 1.8 fuel injected engine however and costs only £18 more than the standard Golf GTi convertible.



All white Golf convertible: Back by demand

Old Number One

Advancing technology has taken the skill out of the mechanical side of driving. By that I mean gear changing, braking, and steering. Today's gear boxes are so simple to operate that only the most clumsy amongst us can crash the gears.

So it was with some trepidation that I put my old car driving technique to the test this week on a most valuable veteran, the 1925 MG *known to all lovers of that marque* as "Old Number One".

In fact it was not the first car built by Cecil Kimber the founder of MG, but is generally accepted to be the first which could truly claim to be an MG. Kimber drove it in the 1925 Land's End Trial.

Still displaying the hallmark of its Morris origin, the famous bullnose brass radiator, it has a three speed Hotchkiss "crash box" steered by a terrifyingly huge lever lying almost parallel to the floor. Yet double declutching with a count of three between each movement produced delightfully quiet and precise changes.

Steering and braking still provided problems but at least I avoided visitors to the refurbished Austin Rover Heritage Trust as I careered along the narrow roads of Syon Park, Brentford. Incidentally, the £2m collection of cars spanning nearly 100 years of the British motor industry is a rewarding visit.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line [illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU CAN RELY ON US [illegible]

ST MARGARET'S SCHOOL, Bushey [illegible]

ENGLAND TO USA [illegible]

DIALYSIS AND TRANSPLANTATION [illegible]

WILL Mrs Maisie Forrester [illegible]

POVERTY AND THE EEC [illegible]

STROKE PATIENT [illegible]

MUST SELL [illegible]

HOST FAMILIES [illegible]

BP MONEY MATCH [illegible]

QUAS-COHEN [illegible]

ADAMS [illegible]

VICTOR HUGO, ALBERT CAMUS [illegible]

FUND RAISING? [illegible]

NON-SMOKER CAR INSURANCE [illegible]

SHALL ANY TEACH GOD knowledge? [illegible]

BIRTHS

ARRIGO [illegible]

BARNES [illegible]

BEVERIDGE [illegible]

BENJAMIN [illegible]

BROOKE [illegible]

CAMERON [illegible]

CURTIS [illegible]

CUTHBERTSON [illegible]

ERRINGTON [illegible]

FOYLE [illegible]

HOLLOWAY [illegible]

LEWIS [illegible]

MARLING [illegible]

PALMER [illegible]

ROSS [illegible]

STARTIN [illegible]

VIVIAN [illegible]

WEBBER [illegible] Kathleen (nee Dunning) and Jonathon – a son Sam.

WILLAN – On April 30th, to Catherine (nee Turner-Lashmar) and Michael a daughter (Lucinda Frances)

BIRTHDAYS

TO MUM AND DAD Happy Birthday, bon voyage from Ted, Jim, Peter, and Paul.

MARRIAGES

ANDREWS:CURTIS The marriage took place on Saturday, April 28th at Holy Trinity Church, Sheen Park, Richmond, of David, son of Dr & Mrs Peter Andrews of Little Addington, Northamptonshire and Alison, daughter of Mrs Josie Curtis and the late Mr Conway Curtis of Swindon, Wiltshire.

DEATHS

BACH – On May 2nd, peacefully at Middlesex Hospital, Ida aged 84 years, beloved mother of Lotte and Vernon, grandmother of Diana, Nicholas, Jonathan, Roger and Stephen and great grand mother of Marcus. Aunt of Walter Kingsley. No flowers but if desired donations to Jewish Blind Society. Cremation today Friday at 1.00 pm, Golders Green Crematorium, West Chapel.

BENNELL, TERENCE IVAN. – On April 30, 1984, as a result of a tragic accident in Togo, West Africa, leaving Corine, Alisa, George, Sam, Katherine and Tom. Dearly loved son of Margaret and Ivan, and brother of Patricia.

BROWN – On May 2, in a Weston-super-Mare Nursing Home, Edith Gladys Maud (nee Wynes), aged 88, wife of the late Sydney Brown. Funeral service, Weston-super-Mare Crematorium, Tuesday, May 15, at 12 noon. Flowers may be sent to Cooksley & Son, Walliscote Lodge Funeral Home, Weston-super-Mare.

BULLEN. – on Tuesday May 1st, Rose Mary Katharine (nee Madden) widow of H. B. Bullen, FRCS. Cremation Eastbourne, Monday May 14th at 2.30pm. Family flowers only.

CROSSLEY (Laurance) – Suddenly May 22nd. Husband of Ruth, father of William and Cathie, brother of Joan. Deeply loved. Private cremation but donations, if desired, to The Blue Cross Animal Hospital, Hugh St., Victoria SW1. Memorial service to be announced at a later date.

DAVIES – On 2nd May, The Hon Eileen Cynthia Millicent Eva, peacefully in London. Funeral private. Flowers to Edwin Hill, Pershore, Worcestershire.

DE NOTTO – on April 23rd, 1984. Peacefully at Beresford House Birchington, Lady Christine Mary, widow of Air Vice Marshal Sir Matthew Izycki De Notto (Royal and Polish Air Force). Requiem mass St. Matthews, Halowell Rd, Northwood at 1.30pm on Friday, May 11th, followed by interment in Northwood Cemetery. No flowers please but donations if desired to Polish Air Forces Association, 14 Collingham Gardens, SW9. Requiescat in Pace.

DOWNING – On May 2nd, at St Michael's Hospital, Aylsham, Norfolk, George Robert, aged 85 years. Dearly loved husband of Dorothy, father of Ronald and grandfather of Graham and Jacqueline. Funeral service May 8th, at 12.30pm, at St Faiths Crematorium.

EARLEY – On Tuesday 1st May, 1984 at Guildford Royal Surrey County Hospital, Rosemarie beloved wife of Ted. Service at Guildford Crematorium, Tuesday 8th May at 11 30. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to British Heart Foundation, 102, Gloucester Place London W1.

FELLNER – On 1st May, 1984 at his new home in Kestrel Grove, Bushey Heath, Kenneth, husband of the late Gerda and beloved father of Cecilia. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium on Tuesday, May 8th at 1.15 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to British Red Cross Society.

GERAERTS. – On April 28th, peacefully, Matthew Joseph, beloved husband of Elizabeth and loving father of Veronica, Paul, Janet, Anita and Gillian. Requiescat in Pace.

HARRISON. – On 30th April, 1984, suddenly at his home, Violet, John Charles Simco Harrison of Speight House, 2 Gloucester Road, Whitstable, aged 70 years, dearly loved husband of Geraldine. Service takes place at Barham Crematorium, Kent, on Friday, 11th May at 2pm. Flowers may be sent to John Kemp Funeral Directors, 26 Harbour Street, Whitstable.

JOHNSTONE. – On April 27th, 1984, peacefully at home in Jakarta, Indonesia after a long illness, aged 55, Walcot David Carruthers, beloved husband of Mabel and much loved father of Christopher, Michael, Caroline, Phillip and grandson James. Sadly missed by all. Family flowers by arrangement and letters please to: Cecil House, Shipbourne Rd, Tonbridge, Kent

MARCH, LILLIE EMMA. – On May 2nd peacefully aged 93 much loved Nanny to Bridgewaters, Bechers and Cotterells.

MORGAN. – On May 2nd, 1984 peacefully in her 91st year, Muriel (Dolly), beloved wife of the late Major T. P. Morgan and dear mother of Tom, Kilbrittain, Carrigaline, co Cork. Burial in family vault in Carrigaline churchyard.

PEACOCK – Wilfred Reginald late of Nairobi, Kenya. On 23rd April '84 in Brighton. Cremation at 1.30 pm on Monday 30th April at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton.

TAYLOR – On 2nd May, 1984, at home in Surbiton, Albert Taylor dear husband of Louise and formerly Director of Purchasing, John Brown Engineers and Constructors Ltd (retired). Cremation will take place on Wednesday 9th May at Kingston Crematorium at 1.30pm. All floral tributes to 32 Thames Haven, Portsmouth Rd, Surbiton

VEREY – David, peacefully on May 3rd, at his home, Barnsley House. Much loved husband of Rosemary, and father of a united family, Charles and Denall, Christopher and Jenny, Veronica and Adam, Davina and Ed, and grandfather of nine special grandchildren. The funeral service will take place at Barnsley Church, on Saturday 5th at 11am for family and nearby friends. A memorial service will be held later.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WHALLEY GWEN – The memorial service will be held at All Saints Church, Marlow, Thursday, May 17th at 2.30pm.

WATNEY. A service of thanksgiving for the life of John Lewis Watney will be held in Mercers' Hall Chapel, Ironmongers Lane, EC2, on Thursday, May 17, at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

STONE, Hyman – Remembering Hy always with deepest love and regret. Inda, Dorothy, Victor and Jonathan April 21st, 1961.

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2. Henry Smith (Kensington Estate).
APPOINTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL TRUSTEE.
The Charity Commissioners have made an order for this purpose. Copies can be obtained by written request to the Charity Commission, 14 Ryder Street, London, SW1, (quoting ref. no. 230102-74-L5) and may also be seen at that address.

CHARITY COMMISSION
National Charity: The Times Crimean Fund Scheme for the reconstitution of the body of Trustees and the alteration of the objects.
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. Copies can be obtained from them at 14 Ryder Street, London SW1Y 6AH (ref: 13197-L1).

LEGAL NOTICES

No 90 of 1984
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE. Chancery Division, Manchester District Registry. Mr District Registrar Delroy.
In the Matter of LEYLAND PAINT & WALLPAPER p.l.c. And in the Matter of the COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to 1983.
NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition was on the 28th day of April 1984 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £6,917,500.00 divided into 18,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each and 9,450,000 Ordinary Shares of 15p each to £4,117,500.00 divided into 27,450,000 Ordinary Shares of 15p each by cancelling paid up share capital to the extent of 10p on each of the issued Ordinary Shares of 25p each and reducing the nominal value of all the Ordinary Shares of 25p each, whether issued or unissued, to 15p.
And NOTICE is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before His Honour Judge Blackett-Ord Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster sitting as a Judge of the High Court at Robert House, 2 Starkie Street, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 3HB on Friday the 25th day of May 1984.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of Hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the under-mentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 3rd day of May 1984.
Slater Heelis, of 71 Princess Street, Manchester M2 4HL, Solicitors for the above-named Company.

No 001082 of 1984
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE. CHANCERY DIVISION.
IN THE MATTER of LONDON SUMATRA PLANTATIONS PLC and IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 16th April 1984 CONFIRMING the REDUCTION of the CAPITAL of the above-named LONDON SUMATRA PLANTATIONS PLC from £1,750,000 to £1,731,194.30 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 19th April 1984.
Dated 1st May 1984.
STEPHENSON HARWOOD, Saddlers' Hall, Gutter Lane, London EC2V 6BS. Solicitors to the above-named Company

IN THE MATTER of DEMARCO ICE CREAM CO. LIMITED and IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 6th day of June, 1984, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Stephen Daniel Swaden FCA of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 26th day of April 1984
S. D. SWADEN, Liquidator

NIMBUS CAMPING AND LEISURE LIMITED (in voluntary liquidation) and The Companies Act 1948.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 15 June 1984 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned David Julian Buchler FCA, at P O Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT, the Liquidator of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 30th day of April 1984
D J BUCHLER, Chartered Accountant.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court in the matter of R G Cooper (Sales) Limited and in the matter of the Companies Act 1948.
By order of the High Court of Justice Chancery Division dated the 28 March 1984 Mr DAVID LLEWELLYN MORGAN of 8 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 0AL, in Greater London, Chartered Accountant, has been appointed Liquidator of the above named Company.
Dated this 24 day of April, 1984
D L Morgan, LIQUIDATOR

PROPERTY TO LET

PARK LANE, W1. Modern block overlooking Hyde Park, fully furnished & tastefully decorated. 2 dble bedrms, 2 bathrms, en suite + 2 recepts. for a 1 yr renewable let. Full porterage. Ideal for company let. Can be split into 2 flats. £625 pw. Apply Miss Washington. Tel: 01-629 3344 (day) (09905) 8932 (eves).

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

MEILHAN SW FRANCE
Large house exceptional situation. Garonne River frontage. Bathing, fishing, boating also within 50 yds Canal du Midi. Good condition. Virtually converted into two homes, CH, elec. main water, new roof, huge cellars & lofts, garage. 5,000 sq m land. Very quiet. 3 mins village. Could be ideal small hotel. Fabulous bargain.
420 000 Fr
Tel: (0273) 506371

NORTH OF THAMES

CHELSEA MAISONETTE
Close Sloane Sq. & River, charming Victorian bldg with East/West exposure. 3 floors incl: lge tiled roof terrace. 2 spacious bedrooms, each with b/rm en suite and built-in closets. Tiled balcony, rose gdn with french doors on ½ landing nr entrance overlooking Glebe Place. Lge windows throughout with stained glass in living/dining rms, plus working gas fireplace. Fully fitted kit, gas CH, easy Street parking. 123 yr lease. Private Sale.
£136,000
01-352 3026

95 EATON SQUARE. Spacious drawing room with plaster work, balcony, dining room, large master bedroom, second bedroom, stainless steel kitchen, two telephone numbers, lift, porter, tennis privileges. £26,000. Tel. 01-235 7622.

COUNTRY PROPERTY

DEVON, between Exmoor and Dartmoor. Modernised cottage, exposed beams, inglenook, well, large garden, views open country. 3 double beds, 2 bathrooms, parks 4 cars. Ideal holiday or retirement £42,000. Tel: 083 783 650.

APPOINTMENTS

CITY OF LONDON – Wine Bar/Restaurant requires keen, youngish under-manager. Prospects for advancement. Weekdays only plus some evenings. Details of experience to Box No. 1262L The Times.

BARBADOS RESIDENTS ONLY
Church Point Ltd, Holetown, Barbados, cottage colony Manager required. De luxe, 8 cottage unit requires capable, mature, person or couple with accounting & managerial experience. Candidates could possibly be retired from banking or other professional service and perhaps seeking a further 5 yr term of employment. Accommodation on site for successful applicant. Write full application with references Box 1263 L The Times.

CREME DE LA CREME

TEMPORARIES
We are looking for experienced Shorthand Secretaries and accurate typists of all ages for long and short term bookings in the City and West End. Excellent rates and satisfying and rewarding assignments.
Ring now for an immediate appointment.
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110 STRAND WC2 01-836 6644
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12 models to choose from
Manufactured to the latest specification also available dehumidifiers. All have 3 year guarantee. Prices and quality are unbeatable.
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Telephone No. 08675-4812

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Over 100 styles included or use to design your own. Sturdy and Durable - will last a lifetime. No more flimsy paper. Send now for full details. (No stamp needed).
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TEMPTING TIMES

FROM MID MAY
EARN £4.40 ph
We urgently need more good secretaries to join our temporary team, current rate £4.30 ph. The summer months look even busier and we invite you to combine your impeccable secretarial skills, senior level experience in London and a pleasant personality with our reputation for providing 1st class temporary secretaries. Speeds required are 100/60 to work for our clients in both the West End and the City.
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COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED OF DENMARK

The Ordinary General Meeting

will be held at Industriens Hus, H. C. Andersens Boulevard, Copenhagen, on Tuesday the 22nd May, 1984, at 4 pm.

AGENDA

1. Report on the Company's business during the past year.
2. Presentation of the audited accounts and Group accounts for 1983.
3. Adoption of the profit and loss account and balance sheet, and giving discharge to the Board of Directors and the Board of Management.
4. Approval of the proposed distribution of profit for the past year and of the proposed dividend.
5. Election to the Board of Directors.
6. Election of two Auditors for the current year.

From the 2nd May 1984 the Agenda and the complete proposals to be submitted to the General Meeting, together with the Company and the Group Accounts, and the Auditors' report, will be open to the inspection of shareholders at the Company's offices. They will also be sent to all shareholders noted in the Company's register of shareholders.
Cards of admission may be obtained from the Company's offices (in London, 5, St Helen's Place), not later than five days before the General Meeting) on shareholders proving their rights as such in accordance with Article 13, second paragraph, of the Articles of Association.
No director is employed under a contract of service either with the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

The Board of Directors,
THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED OF DENMARK

SUPER SECRETARIES

FRENCH SHORTHAND. Circa £9,800. If you have fluent French, good skills (100/60) and preferably banking experience, two busy executives of a well known American investment bank need your organising ability and secretarial backup. Call Crone Corkill 588 3538. Rec Cons.

SWEDISH SPEAKING secretary with excellent sh and typing. textile co west end area. German an asset. To £7600. Call Stockton Assocs. Rec Con 734 8466.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Designers. Permanent/temporary positions. AMSA Specialist Agency 01-734 0532.

WANTED

TELEVISION COMPANY requires 1960's boys rugby boots, small sizes only. Phone: 01-261 3603, daytime only during work hours.

GLYNDEBOURNE & WIMBLEDON tickets wanted. 01-828 0778.

SNAFFLES, A J MUNNINGS or Russell Flint signed limited ed. prints now being accepted for sale on June 27th. Please contact Christopher Johnston, Bonhams Auctioneers, Montpelier St. London, SW7. Tel: 01-584 9161.

WANTED. Large Victorian and Edwardian wardrobes, tables and chairs, desks, bookcases and all pre-1920 quality furniture. 01-228 4475.

WIMBLEDON TENNIS TICKETS wanted. Centre court or No1. Top prices paid. 01-839 1888.

ANTIQUE GARDEN STATUARY wanted urgently. Crowther of Syon Lodge. 01-560 7978.

WIMBLEDON TICKETS REQUIRED. All days, Centre and No.1. Courts. 01-263 9867 (office hrs). Opine Ltd.

WIMBLEDON TICKETS required. 01-928 1775.

WANTED, BP left hand £20,000, right hand £10,000. Tel 0793 781691.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

RESPONSIBLE LIVE IN nanny/housekeeper required. Own room, non smoker preferred, hours and salary by arrangement. For further details phone 586 5281.

WORLD'S LARGEST Au Pair Bureau offers m'helps, doms; all live-in staff. UK & Overseas Au Pair Agency Ltd. 87 Regent Street, W1, 01-439 6534.

BOOK-A-COOK for any occasion. Want to cook somewhere? (emp agy). Ring 0635 31982.

GIRL FRIDAY for working mother of 2. Living in North Oxford. Oxford 53827 weekdays.

COOKS for Corsica and Corfu
We need highly experienced cooks to join a young fun team in Corsica and Corfu. The job entails cooking for up to 100 covers. Catering experience for large parties is essential. This is seasonal employment until October. There are marvellous opportunities for watersports.
Write, plus CV, to: Miss Catherine Murray, Bladon Lines Travel Ltd, 56-58 Putney High St, London, SW15 1SF.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BLUTHNER BOUDOIR GRAND piano in Rosewood casework and action in excellent order, quality, tone. £3,500. Teignmouth (06267) 3363.

STEINWAY Grand model M No. 274261, 5 ft 6 ins, black, family history, £3,200 o.n.o. Tel: (0533) 712602 (Leicester).

BABY GRAND Challen, Mahogany, immaculate. £1,600 ono. Tel: 01-834 7330.

BL OTHNER grnd 6ft light mahogany No. 86645 £3,200 ono. Tel: 01-527 3896.

THE PIANO WORKSHOP 20% OFF ten selected new pianos – call for details. Hire Plan, Catalogue. 2 Fleet Rd. NW3. 01-267 7671. 7 days.

PIANOS: H. LANE & SONS. New and reconditioned. Quality at reasonable prices. 326 Brighton Rd. S. Croydon. 01-688 3513.

THE PIANO WAREHOUSE, 100 2nd hand upright & grands. £280-£5,000. Restoration, tuning, transport. 23 Castlehaven Rd. NW1. 01-267 7674.

PIANO, beautiful small upright, superb condition. £360. Can arrange delivery. 453 0148.

FOR SALE 2 Cellos, 1 violin. Retirement reason. 0622 670773. No dealers.

GRAND PIANO FOR SALE. Chickering 6ft 6in, good condition. £1,300 or offer. 01-659 9600.

BECHSTEIN upright piano £850 o.n.o. 01-841 2600.

Phelps Pianos
THE COMPLETE SERVICE IN
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Tel: 01-485-2042
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1956 ROLLS-ROYCE Silver Cloud. Black Pearl, taxed and MoT, excellent condition. £7,000 ono. Russell. 0273 492267.

230 S.L. MERCEDES 1965. Hard & Soft tops, manual, full service history. £5,200 ono. Tel: 041-779 2414.

AUSTIN – A55 1958 Reg. No. XEL 4 Good condition, offers around £700. Tel: Wimborne 886267.

BLACK MGB GT 1981, 1 lady driver, 8,000 miles, sun roof, as new £5,500. – 0446 750586.

ROVER 105 S overdrive, engine, body, upholstery, v.g. condition MOT £1,000 ono. 01-788-0990.

1935 ASTON MARTIN 2 litre sports, very rare car in beautiful condition. £12,000. Tel. (0246) 76838.

MERCEDES BENZ 300 SEL 6.3. 1969, low mileage, history, met blue. £3,500 ono. Tel: (0273) 777257.

1927 INVICTA 3 litre drophead coupe. Original condition, £10,880. 029 676 418.

RENTALS

HOLLAND PARK W.11
Maisonette for long let Company/private adaptable for use as office/flat, fully furnished, central heating, 2 lge bedrooms, lounge /dining, fitted kitchen/breakfast, bathroom/W.C. £155 p.w.
Tel. 01-229 9828 (office hrs)
01-589 2471 (Eves, w/e)

LONDON, W10
Sunny and friendly 1st flr conversion flat with attractive trad furns. 1 dble, 1 sgle beds, bath, with o/b shwr, dble recep, well ftd kit, ch/chw. Surprisingly easy access to West End & motorways. Available now for 1/2 yrs.
£120 per week

HIGHGATE VILLAGE, W8
Delightful mews style house in secluded area of Kensington with all amenities on the doorstep. 1 dble, 2sgle beds, bath & clks, recep. Open-plan kit/dining rm, ldg to family rm. Super roof tce. Avail now semi-furnished for 1/2 yrs.
£2130 per week

CHESTERTONS
01-221 3500

THE SHORT/LONG Let Specialists. We offer a large selection of 1/2/3/4 bedroom luxury flats in central London. M&d service. Please call us Palace Properties on 486 8926.

F. W. GAPP (Management Services) Ltd require properties in Central, South and West London areas for waiting applicants. 01-889 3674.

HIGH ST, KENSINGTON. Newly furn. 3 bedroom flat, company let preferred. £150 pw. 01-937 2477.

LUXURY FLATS. Short/long lets. Enhanced Properties. 01-629 0601.

HARLEY STREET. London W1. – Large, sunny 3rd/4th floor maisonette: 3 double bedrooms, large reception, study, fully fitted kitchen, 2 bathrooms, separate w.c's, lift; fully furnished; yearly lease, £375 a week, company let only. – Telephone 935 3169 between 9-5.30 pm, weekdays only.

RICHMOND/KEW. Delightful, newly modernised town house in excellent location. 4 beds, 2 receps, 2 baths, garden & garage. New carpets, curtains, all machines. Long let. £228pw. Unfurnished. Buchanan & Co. 889 7779.

WANTED TO RENT by Canadian academic family, 3/4 bed house Aug 84 for 1 yr. Tube access S. Kensington/Lycee preferred. Exchange possible. Arthurs, 11 Hillcrest Park, Toronto, M4X 1E8.

WANTED. American medical family wishes to rent a 4 bedroomed house in London, 4 weeks from end July or exchange Richmond, Virginia USA. Telephone 289 5363.

SINGLE & DOUBLE BED sitting rooms. Sgle £35 p.w. Dble £50 p.w. Earls Court, W. Ken, Fulham & Streatham areas. Phone 731 0601, 244 7626, 736 2944.

PARSONS GREEN SW6 – Lovely family house with 4 bedrms, 2 receps, 2 baths, good kit, gdn, avail now, long let, £250pw. Ring Mastrells 581 2216.

WANTED: 4 months accom. while our home is renovated. Family of 4 + immaculate cat. Up to £200 pw. 821 6684 (after 7 pm or wkends).

HOLIDAY FLATS SERVICES carefully selected for furnsd and advanced service apts. Central London. 01-937 9886.

QUALITY FURNISHED flats & houses to let in the best London areas. Contact the experts Anscombe & Ringland 01-722 7101.

KENSINGTON. Attractive pied-a-terre in well known P/B block, C.H. lift, porter, fully furnished, £325 p.c.m. fully incl. 061-796 8888. Ref S.T.L.

KENSINGTON. Attractive pied-a-terre in well known p/b block, C/h, lift, porter, fully furnished, £325 pcm fully incl. 061 7968888. Ref S.T.L.

SW1. Super furn flat overlooking gdns, 2 beds, large recep, k&b, all amenities, good dec cond. £120 p.w. immed poss. 828 7452.

CHELSEA – Brand new furnished 1 bed flat. Access to private gardens. Co let £136 pw. 352 6799.

LEADING RENTAL Specialists in Chelsea, Fulham & Putney. Lyham Management. 736 5803.

W1 MAYFAIR FLAT new decor, 2 recep, 2 bedrms, kit/diner. £230 p.w. Company let. 229 6597.

REGENTS PARK – beautiful spacious 2 bed apart. Avail May for 1 yr. £180 pw. 01-267 7671 or 586 9464.

ST JOHN'S WOOD. Enchanting new flat for 1/2: lounge, galleried bedrm, k & b. £98 p.w. 486 5769.

FURNISHED RENTALS
ST JOHN'S WOOD. Newly furnished 1 bed balcony flat in lux mod block. Gge incl. £140 pw.
LORDS, NW8. De luxe 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 recep apart. £400 pw ono.
SWISS COTTAGE. 3 bed, 2 recep, 2 bath town house nr Holiday Inn. £275 pw.
ANDREW COWAN
586 8811

SERVICED APARTMENTS, Chelsea. Well sited restaurants, late night shopping. Furnished studio & 1 bed flats from £130 pw., min 1 month. Letting office, Nell Gwynn House, Sloane Ave, London SW3. 01-584 8317. Telex 916388 NGH LDN.

GARDEN SQUARE KENSINGTON W8 Modern luxury furnished flat, 2 bed rm, 2 bath, recp, kit, ent hall, south balcony, own floodlit garden, patio, BBQ, TV, Stero, freezer etc. £165 pw. Tel: day 01-370 1263, eve 01-373 6369.

CHELSEA, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, Belgravia, Pimlico, Westminster. Luxury Houses & flats available for long or short lets. Please ring for current list. Coutes, 69 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1. 828 8251.

CADOGAN LANE, delightful mews house, newly decorated, 3 beds, 1½ baths, double reception, kitchen, garage, keys to tennis courts & gardens. £200 p.w. for quick let. 379 6585 (mornings).

PIMLICO S.W.1. Between Victoria & Sloane Sq. small elegant, newly dec & furn 1 bed sunny 1st flr balcony flat, recept, bed, shower, sep W.C. kit, C.H. entry phone. £100 p.w. Co. Let. 821 7977.

SUPERIOR FLATS & HOUSES. Available and required for diplomats, executives, long or short lets in all areas. Lipfriend and Co., 48 Albemarle St., W1, 499 5334.

£175 PW. Kensington, Superb modern 2 bed flat in excellent decorative order. Quality mod furnishings, lift, porter, col TV, cleaning service. Aylesford & Co. 351 2383.

HYDE PK. Spacious prestige penthouse flat. £45 p.w. Dbl bdrm, recep, k&b, 4 yr renewable lease. F/f for sale £15,750. Tel: 01-839 4458.

GREENE & Co. RLO. The New Letting Agents, houses and flats in N, NW and Central London. Rents from £80-£600 pw. 01-625 8611.

AMERICAN EXECUTIVE seeks luxury flat or house up to £400 pw. usual fees required. Phillips Kay & Lewis 839 2245.

HOLLAND PARK. – Mod block, 2 bedrms, 2 recep, k & b, balc. 6½ yrs £2,800 pa: lease, contents, c & c, £18,500. – 493 2091 (T).

YORK ESTATES. We have many properties to let all over London and urgently require more. From £80pw to £1,000pw. 724 0335.

HAMPSTEAD and all N/NW London furnished flats and houses. £75-£600 p.w. Hart Residential Letting. 01-482 2222.

OFF FLEET ST. Elegant newly furn & decor flat, 1 recp, 1 dble bed, kit/bath. Co let only. £225 p.w. Tel. 439 8271, ref required.

SLOANE SQ. Traditional 2 bedrmd apartment. Avail for 6 mnths +. £220 p.w. Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245.

CHESHAM PLACE, SW1. Very comfortable 2nd flr flat, 2 beds, recep, k & b, long let, £380 p.w. Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245.

STUNNING new furnished apartments, Mayfair, £400-£500 pw. Minimum of 3 months let. 01-491 2626.

UNFURNISHED 1 bed flat at Teddington. Nominal rent, 6½ yr lease, fixtures and fittings, £7,500. Tel: 01-977 9023.

FULHAM RD. Furn flat, 2 dble beds, nr Putney Br, Tube, CH, Washer/dryer. Co let £115 p.w. 01-731 5349.

W8. non smoker to share lux flat, o/bed, priv b'room, opening to lge gdn. £55 pw. Tel: 373 9811 after 7.

WIMBLEDON. New studio for 1 person. Furnished, c/h, tel. Co let pref. £60 p.w. 947 8829 (eves).

FULHAM. Exc 4 bedrmd hse with 2 bath & gdn. £250 p.w. Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245.

SAMUEL & CO Chelsea SW3 charming 1 dble bed flat good sized rec patio £136pw 736 8000.

W2. – Super 3 bed P/B flat, elegant recep, £190 pw incl CH & chw. – Andrew Letting, 01-486 2116.

W1. – Well dec/furn dble bed flat, good block: £125 pw incl CH & chw. – Andrews Letting, 01-486 2116.

QUALITY SUMMER LETS required in W1/W2. Oxford Links. 486 9697.

SAMUEL & CO Fulham SW6 new 2 bed flat 1/2 rec £165pw 736 8000.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only when outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 'S' 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Ton't Wed at 7.00 THE SICILIAN VESPERS. Tomor, Tue 7.30 THE MAGIC FLUTE. Thur at 7.00 DER ROSENKAVALIER. Some seats avail at doors each day.

DOMINION TH Tott Ct Rd 580 9562/3 CC 323 1676/7. May 1-12: NATIONAL BALLET OF CUBA Artistic direction Alicia Alonso. Swan Lake, Giselle Act II + Triple Bill.

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA with the
LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
28th May – 17th August
ALL PERFORMANCES SOLD OUT
Telephone enquiries regarding possible returned tickets should be made from 9 May and throughout the festival
Box Office open for personal callers from 8 May
BOX OFFICE
Ringmer (0273) 812411
Open from 8th May Mon-Fri. 10am-5pm
Opens from 26th May every day

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN Resv: 240 1066/1911. Standby info 836 6903 (10am-8pm (Mon-Sat). Access/Visa 'S'. 65 amphi-seats avail for all perfs (Mon-Sat) from 10am on the day.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't at 7.30pm. A Midsummer Night's Dream. Mon at 1.30pm. Cosi fan tutte.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tomor, Tue at 7.30pm. Les Biches/Shadowplay/Gloria. Thur at 7.30pm, Agon/Return to the Strange Land/Fleeting Figures (New Dance Ballet).
CELEBRITY CONCERT
Frederica von Stade is ill and the May 7 Celebrity Concert is cancelled – full refunds avail from B.O.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1: 01-278 8916 (5 lines). CC. 24 Hr Recorded Info 01-278 5450. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. The Wells' Stagecoach: Before & after-show Bus Service – Phone B.O. for details.
THE HUNGARIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE Until Tomor Eves 7.30 Sat Mat 2.30. The Firebird/The Miraculous Mandarin/Classical Symphony/Petrouchka (The Miraculous Mandarin will not be performed in the Mat perfs)
May 9 – 12 Jalabala Vaidya in The Ramayana.
Gilbert & Sullivan Season June 4-July 21. Tel: 01-278 0855 (24 hr) for brochure.

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL, Barbican Centre EC2 01-638 8891/01-628 8795. Ton't 7.45 PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Best of Broadway. CARL DAVIS cond. BENJAMIN LUXON baritone. Songs & music from the shows incl: Gershwin: Porgy & Bess. Kern: Showboat. Bernstein: Candide. Rogers & Hammerstein: Carousel, Oklahoma! Lerner & Loewe: My Fair Lady. Tomor 7.45 José Carreras, London Symphony Orchestra, Robert Mandell cond.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191) cc 928 8800. Tonight 7.30 LPO Riccardo Chailly, Cristina Ortiz. Sibelius: Finlandia. Grieg: Piano Concerto. Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.1 (Winter Daydreams)

EXHIBITIONS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Craft Fair. Sat, Sun, 5 & 6 May, 11am - 9.30pm. Main foyer. Sales & demonstrations. Adm. free.

THEATRES

ALBERY 836 3878 cc 379 6565/741 9999 Grp Sales 930 6123/836 3962 LOW PRICE PREVIEWS Eves 8.00, Sat 6.00 & 8.40. Opens 9 May at 7.30 (Thur mats 3.00 from 10 May).
"Magnetic Sensuality" Times
SIMON CALLOW
and
JAMES WARWICK in
"EDGAR WALLACE'S
Brilliant Classic" Guardian
ON THE SPOT
Directed by Robert Walker
"Stylish and hugely intriguing" Punch.
"A completely credible power-play, filled out with true humanity. Wisecracks scatter like cut class sparklers. PASSION IS IRRESISTIBLE" Gdn

ALDWYCH 836 6404/379 6233. Eves 7.30. Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 4.0, 7.45.
"THE MOST INVIGORATING MUSICAL IN YEARS"
Gerard Dempsey, D. Exp
TIM RICE & STEPHEN OLIVER'S
"Glittering & Entertaining" D. Tel.
BLONDEL
Starring PAUL NICHOLAS
"THE FUNNIEST MUSICAL I'VE EVER SEEN"
Illus. London News.
"See it for it's fun" S. Times
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also on page 12

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Fern Britton. News from *Debbie Rix* at **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; sport at **6.40** and **7.40**; regional news, weather and traffic at **6.45, 7.15, 7.45** and **8.15**; television preview at **6.55**; morning newspaper review at **7.18** and **8.18**; gardening hints between **7.30** and **7.45**; pop music news between **7.45** and **8.00**; horoscopes at **8.33**; culinary hints between **8.30** and **9.00**.

9.00 MacLeod in Japan. The first of three-part series, first shown on Pebble Mill at One, in which *the intrepid Mr MacLeod* samples the delights of the Land of the Rising Sun. **9.25 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School,** presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r). **10.55 Ceefax.**

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill **12.57** Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). **1.00 Pebble Mill at One** includes the presentation of the Pebble Mill Youth Caring Scheme awards by HRH The Princess Anne. **1.45 Heads and Tails.** For the very young (r).

2.00 The Architect of Civic Pride. The story of Cuthbert Brodrick, the architect who designed Leeds Town Hall. **2.30 Film: Texas Lady (1955)** starring Claudette Colbert as Prudence Webb who fights to bring law and order to Texas in the 1880s. Directed by Tim Whelan. **3.53** Regional news (not London).

3.55 Play School, presented by Carol Chell (r) **4.15 Six Classic Fairy Tales.** Sheila Hancock with the Hans Anderson tale of The Ugly Duckling. **4.25 The Record Breakers** presented by Roy Castle (r). **4.50 So You Want to be Top.** Essential viewing for those who want to succeed at school (r) **5.05 Codename Icarus.** Episode two of the five-part drama about dirty work at a missile launching pad (r).

5.40 Sixty Minutes begins with the news read by Jan Leeming and continues with weather at 5.45, regional magazines at 5.55 and closes with news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 Odd One Out. Quiz game presented by Paul Daniels. Last week's winner is challenged by five more hopefuls.

7.10 Match of the Day Live introduced by Jimmy Hill. Maine Road, Manchester, is the venue for the Second Division match between Manchester City and the already promoted Chelsea. The commentator is Alan Parry. Plus the Goal of the Month competition for April result.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.

9.25 Starsky and Hutch. Huggy Bear, the two policemen's *underworld friend*, is the target for murder when the money he is taking care of for a mobster is stolen. (r)

10.15 Potter. The last in the present series of repeats of the comedy about a retired businessman with his nose into everybody else's business (r).

10.45 News headlines and weather.

10.50 Amateur Boxing. *Highlights of* the finals of the George Wimpey ABA Championships. Harry Carpenter is the commentator at Wembley Arena. Ends at **12.30.**

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** and **9.0**; sport at **6.35** and **7.35**; consumer affairs at **6.40** and **8.45**; fishing news at **6.45**; exercises at **6.50** and **9.15**; the day's anniversaries at **7.05** and **8.05**; a guest in the Spotlight at **7.20**; cartoon at **7.25**; guest of the day, Judith Chalmers, at **7.40**; Chris Tarrant's postbag at **7.50**; Human League video at **7.55**; Liz Fraser's Star Turn at **8.15**; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at **8.35**.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. **9.30 For Schools:** The wildlife of a Derbyshire Dale. **9.50** Historical fieldwork in Everton. **10.09** Frances writes a letter to her grandparents. **10.26** Using adjectives with nouns. **10.46** Chemistry. **11.05** The making *of the film Zulu Dawn.* **11.22** The story of The Golden Antelope. **11.40** The reproductive system.

11.55 Wattoo Wattoo. Cartoon. **12.00 Alfie Atkins** in another escapade with his invisible friend, Moggie. **12.10 Rainbow** *Learning with puppets.* **12.30 On the Market.** The best food buys guide.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 About Britain. A documentary about a group of redundant Tyneside shipbuilders who pooled their *redundancy money to buy* back the yard.

2.00 Judi. Miss Spiers's guests today are British wartime agent Antonia Hunt, author Leslie Thomas and Monty Python's Terry Jones. **2.30 Return of the Saint.** Simon *teams up with an Israeli agent* to find a defecting terrorist hiding in London (r). **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.20 Aubrey.** Adventures of an eccentric inventor. **4.25 Wind in the Willows.** Animated adventures of the Kenneth Grahame characters. Narrated by Ian Carmichael. **4.50 Freetime** tests stock car racing (Oracle titles page 170). **5.15 The Young Doctors.**

5.45 News. 6.00 The Six O'Clock Show presented by Michael Aspel.

7.00 The Pyramid Game. Fast moving test of powers of description. The celebrity guests are Rula Lenska and Nigel Rees.

7.30 *Hardcastle and McCormick.* An old lag is released from prison, anxious to put his hands on the loot he stashed away 25 years before. But the area where he hid the swag has been transformed.

8.30 That's My Boy. Molly Sugden stars as the possessive mother of the grown-up son she had given up for adoption at birth (Oracle titles page 170).

9.00 Marlowe – Private Eye. Raymond Chandler's private detective investigates the murder of a top lawyer. (Oracle titles page 170). (see Choice).

10.00 News.

10.30 The London Programme. Gavin Weightman asks if London's architects are designing buildings for people or to satisfy their own egos.

11.00 Shoot Pool! A quarterfinal match between Joe Barbara and Roger Blank in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships.

12.00 South of Watford. Ben Elton with the latest news on the London entertainment scene.

12.30 Highway Patrol* The very first episode of the vintage American crime series starring Broderick Crawford. Followed by **Night Thoughts.**

Nigel Rees: The Pyramid Game (ITV 7.00pm)

● With football, snooker, boxing and pool dominating the television tonight, the non-sports minded might be desperate for something visual to get their teeth into. From the rest of the programmes on offer, networked, only BBC 2's **ALL OUR WORKING LIVES** (9.25pm) and ITV's **MARLOW – PRIVATE EYE** (9.00pm) have any claim to be anything out of the ordinary that hasn't been seen before. All Our Working Days, the fourth programme of the series on Britain at work in the 20th century, traces the fortunes of the Lancashire cotton industry which, at its peak, *employed well over half-a-million* people, now reduced to 30,000. Sprightly former mill-workers remember with surprising affection how 56-hours a week hard graft earned then the princely wage of six shillings, a sum that was liable to

CHOICE

deductions should the worker make a mistake. Even so, as 81-year old Fanny Hartley recalls "there was no animosity towards our managers, we had a great respect for them". A lesson here, surely, for today's industrial relations executive.

● From fact to fiction with Marlowe – Private Eye investigating the mystery of Nevada Gas. The role of the slick, sharp-phrased, wise-cracking detective has been perfectly cast in the six-foot plus *frame of the Texan actor Powers* Boothe. Director David Wickes eventually chose Boothe after discarding some 20 other hopefuls, including according to Wickes, a number of big names. Boothe was chosen on the strength of his role as a national guardsman, fighting for his life, in the film Southern Comfort. A change of suit and here he is tonight, again fighting for his life in an entertaining tale that begins with the murder by gassing of a top lawyer. Marlowe's investigations lead him to a vicious gangster – and to the lawyer's wife.

● The second programme in Russell Davies's series on **THE SPORTING LIFE** (Radio 4, 4.10pm) deals with sport's relationships with the media – and the media doesn't emerge with all that much credit. Mr Davies asks a number of pertinent *questions concerning the blanket* coverage of certain sports while others, especially those also played by women – notably cricket – are totally ignored. Mr Davies's discourse makes for a challenging and thought provoking half-an-hour.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods: Heat Transfer. **6.30** Introduction to Sociology. **6.55** More than Meets the Eye. **7.20** Marking Time. **7.45** Thermodynamic Energy. Closedown at **8.10.**

9.00 Ceefax.

10.25 World Snooker. The semi-finals continue in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship at the Crucible Theatre. The action is introduced by David Icke with commentary by Ted Lowe, Jack Karnehm and Clive Everton.

1.00 approximately **Ceefax.**

2.45 World Snooker. The afternoon session, which begins at **3.00,** is preceded by the draw to see who has won the Shot of the Championship competition.

5.05 Weekend Outlook. A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes.

5.10 Chancellor's School. An Open *University production that* follows the endeavours of the Chancellor's School's Action Committee that was formed after Hertfordshire County Council decided to close down the school.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 World Snooker. David Vine presents highlights of crucial frames in both semifinal matches in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship.

6.45 Eight Days a Week presented by Robin Denselow. Reviews of the week's main rock and pop events, films, concerts and the latest record releases. With Radio One's Janice Long, Nick Lowe and Green of Scritti Politti.

7.15 Play: Loyalties, by Peter McDougall. *First shown on* Schools, this drama concerns the dilemma facing a young boy when he has to decide whether he should tell the police the truth or lie to them in order to protect his delinquent friend. Starring Jon Morrison *and Gary Rankin.*

7.45 America. Part two of Alistair Cooke's 13 part personal history of the United States. This evening Mr Cooke traces the epic journeys on the North American continent by the French and Spanish adventurers (r).

8.35 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton and Clay Jones in the Cheltenham garden of botanist and painter, Joyce Johnson.

9.00 World Snooker. Highlights of the 15th to 22nd frames of a best-of-31 *semi-final.* Introduced by David Vine.

9.25 All Our Working Lives. Part four of the history of 20th century working Britain examines the rise and fall of the cotton industry. (see Choice).

10.25 World Snooker. Further coverage from Sheffield.

10.50 Newsnight.

11.35 World Snooker. Highlights of the day's play. Ends at **12.40.**

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Racing from Newmarket introduced by Brough Scott. Live coverage of four races from the second day of the Guineas meeting – the Chevington Stakes (2.35); the British Sugar Silver Spoon Handicap (3.05); the Jockey Club Stakes (3.40); and the Pretty Polly Stakes (4.10).

4.30 Cartoon Carnival.

5.00 Wayne and Shuster. The Canadian comics with another look at the lighter side of life.

5.30 The Addams Family.* The first of a new series featuring the macabre Charles Addams cartoon characters. This evening a young beatnik crashes his *motorcycle* into a tree near the Addams house and takes refuge with the family. They treat him to a session in the stocks and to one on the rack.

6.00 High Band. Two for the price of one this evening with *performances* by Ultravox from their video, Monument and highlights from Spandau Ballet's video, Over Britain.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 Right to Reply.

8.00 A Week in Politics presented by Peter Jay. The main item is on Britain's farmers – why they are no longer loved by politicians and how they are fighting back. This item includes an interview with Michael Joplin, the Minister of State responsible for agriculture, fisheries and food. Yesterday's local elections and three by-election results are analysed.

8.40 What the Paper Say. The Daily Mirror's Joe Haines casts his experienced eye over Fleet Street's coverage of the *week's news.*

9.00 Agony. Comedy series about an agony aunt who is having difficulties with her own marriage. Starring Maureen Lipman who, this week, is informed by her husband that he loves another woman.

9.30 It Takes a *Worried Man.* Roath still can't kick the habit of visiting his analyst, mainly because his analyst can't do without him. And life goes on in its own dull way – until Roath is invited to a gay party.

10.00 Cheers. Comedy series set in a Boston bar. The arrogant Cliff's bluff is called when a customer tires of his endless pontificating and challenges him to a fight.

10.30 A Way of Being. A documentary about methods *used to cope with the* pressures of everyday life.

11.15 The Late Clive James. Politicians as opposed to politics is the subject tonight when Mr James welcomes Denis Healey, Simon Hoggart and Johnny Apple.

12.15 Jazz at the Gateway with Oscar Peterson and guests, the Enrico Rava Quartet and the Duncan Findlay Quintet.

1.00 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, incl. 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.50 Your Letters.
8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. The castaway is the actor Leo McKern†(r).
9.45 The Anatomy of a Retirement. Harry Soan continues to reflect on his 18 years of retirement.
10.00 News; International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Nine Lives' by Stella Whitelaw. Reed by Elizabeth Proud.
10.45 Daily Service†
11.00 News; Travel; A Family Nation. Ian Grimble revisits the Faroe Islands which, he discovers, are the melting pot of an unusual experiment – that of a family organization itself as a self-governing nation (r).
11.48 Natural Selection. Michael Clegg in the nest-sharing wife-swapping, egg stealing world of the magpie.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Patti Coldwell introduces the first of a new Call to Account series in which representatives of trades and professions answer listeners' queries. The first guest is Bill Hilton, the National Director of Master Builders.
12.27 My Music Music panel games, chaired by Steve Race †12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Glasgow. Includes and interview with Viscountess Stansgate. Also an item on Radio Scotland's *National Primary Schools Radio* Competition.
3.00 News; Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens (6) Adapted by Betty Davies†(r)
4.00 News; Time for Verse. Love Light-hearted.
4.10 The Sporting Life. Seven programmes on the sporting scene in Britain (2) Sport and the Media. Presented by Russell Davies.
4.40 Story Time: 'Time After Time' by Molly Kearne (7)
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard †
8.20 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.45 Any Questions? from Uppingham, Leicestershire. With Roy Hattersley, Prof John Honey, Charles Moore, Esther Rantzen and (in the chair) David Jacobs.
9.30 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment of Alan Bennett's Forty Years on at the Chichester Festival Theatre; and *on the European Musuem of the* Year Award. Plus an interview with the winner of th Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Prize.
10.15 Book at Bedtime: 'Naples 44' by Norman Lewis (last of ten parts).
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15-Close Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00 Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.0 Study On 4: Action Makes the Heart Grow Stronger. 11.30 It's a Farmer's Life.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Sibelius's Pohjola's Daughter; Schumann's Waldszenen (Dalberto, piano); Vaughan Williams's Serenade to music.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Concert: part two. William Croft's Ayres in the Comedy of The Funeral; Mendelssohn's Songs without Words, Op 102 Nos 4 and 6 (Barenboim, piano); Telemann's Concerto in A for two scordatura *violins and continuo; and* Brahms's Violin Sonata No 2 (Suk/Katchen).†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Schoenberg. String Trio Op 45; Theme and Variations, Op 43b; and the Chamber Symphony No 2 Op 38.†
10.00 Beethoven and Dussek: Hamish Milne, piano, plays Beethoven's Sonata in F minor Op 2 No 1; and Dussek's Sonata in F minor Op 77.†
10.50 Ulster Orchestra: Seiber's Transylvanian Rhapsody; Kodaly's Summer Evening; and Panufnik's Sinfonia Mistica.†
11.50 Strauss, Joaquin Nin, and Negro Spirituals: recital by Jo Ann Pickens (soprano) with Antony *Saunders as her accompanist.†*
12.30 BBC Scottish SO: Concert, part one. With John Wallace (trumpet). Weber's overture Oberon; Nd Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E flat.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
1.20 Concert: part two. Mendelssohn's Symphony No 3 (the Scottish).†
2.00 University of Wales Recital: Lontano perform works by *Sebastian Forbes, Peter Maxwell* Davies, Stravinsky (The Soldier's Tale) and, at 2.40, Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time.†
3.40 Villa-Lobos: Tommy Reilly, with the London Sinfonietta, plays the Harmonica Concerto.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from the Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin, Tewkesbury.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of David Hoult's selections.†
6.30 Music for Guitar: a recital by Carlos Barbosa-Lima. Works by Scarlatti, Bach Joao Pernambuco, and Luis Bonfa – all *arranged by tonight's performer.†*
7.00 A Self-Made Man: Angela Carter's exploration of the life and character of Ronald Firbank. Lewis Flander plays Firbank, with John Westbrook and Frances Jeater as the narrators.†
8.00 Piano Recital: Kathron Sturrock plays works by Liszt Pincluding Nuages gris), Bartok, Schoenberg (Six Little Pieces, Op 19) and Patten.†
8.45 Poetry Now: Presented by Alan Brownjohn. The poets include James Berry, Hilary Davies and John Mole.
9.05 Vagn Holmboe: the Carl Nielsen *Quartet play the String Quartet* No 14.†
9.25 La Scala di Seta (The Silken Ladder). Marc Andreae conducts the Italian Swiss Radio Symphony Orchestra in Rossini's one-act comic opera. Sung in Italian. With Ernesto Palacio as the secret husband of Giulia *(Carmen Lavani). The cast also* includes Mario Chiappi, and Tiziana Tramonti.
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF only Open University: 6.15-6.55am 6.15 Buddhism in Thailand 6.35 Gibbon's Attack on Christianity 11.20-1200pm 11.20 Children's Questioning Strategies 11.40 Propaganda and the Civil War.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 9.00pm). Major bulletins: 7.00 am, 8.00, 1.00 pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.40, 8.30 am (mf/mw). 4.00 am Bill Rennells, † 5.30 Colin Berry. † 7.30 Terry Wogan †incl. 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 10.00 Russell Harty. † 12.00 pm Steve Jones. †incl. 1.05; 2.02 Sport 2.05 *Don Durbridge †incl. 3.02 Sport.* 3.30 Music all the way †incl. 3.40 Newmarket Racing: The Jockey Club Stakes 4.02 Sport. 4.05 David Hamilton †incl. 5.05; 6.02 Sport. 6.05 John Dunn explores the International Garden festival at Liverpool †incl. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Cricket Scores; Friday Night is Music Night direct from The Dome, Brighton. The singers: Marilyn Hill Smith, Joan Savage and Niall Murray with Brighton Festival Chorus †8.20-8.40* Interval with Tony Barnfield. 9.30 The Organist Entertains. Nigel Ogden introduces news and views from the popular organ world †9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Best of Bentine. Michael Bentine's one-man show. 10.30 Sound of Wales. The third of six programmes featuring the musical sounds of Wales. 11.00 Stuart Hall (stereo from midnight). 1.00 am Peter Dickson presents Nightride †. 3.00-4.00 Night Owls (with Dave Gelly †).

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30 am until 8.30 pm and then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (mf/mw). 6.00 am Mark Page. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Adrian John. 4.30 Select-a-disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable with Richard Skinner. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00). VHF Radios 1 and 2 4.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1 12.00-4.00 With Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Pageant of the Past. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Patrick Martyn's Music Box. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The World of Singing. 8.30 The Keys to Cancer. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Mourning Becomes Electra. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.30 Middlemarch. 9.00 London Royal. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Villette. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Making Tracks To Chittagong. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah And Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 London Royal. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 The Mutiny of HMS Bounty. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.40 Book Choice. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m: 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m; VHF -92-95; *LBC* 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC 1 Wales: 6.45am, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15 Election Special. 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales headlines. *5.55 Wales today. 10.15-11.05 Week in* week out. 11.05-11.06 News 11.06-12.30am Amateur boxing. 12.30 Weather. **Scotland:** 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish news. 5.55 Scotland: sixty minutes. 7.10-8.10 The world's strongest man. 8.10-8.30 Fiddlers rally. 8.30-9.00 Agenda. 10.15-11.45 The Beechgrove Garden. 11.45-11.46 News and weather. ***Northern Ireland:*** 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland news. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland news. 5.55 Scene around six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News and weather. 12.30am News and weather.

England North-East only: 12.00-12.30pm North country. 5.55 Regional *news magazines.* 10.15 East – Weekend. Midlands – Barmaid's Arms. North – Gardener's Direct Line (Leeds 446222). North East – Make It In Business. North West – Outlook. South – 'Moments'. South West – West Country Tales. West – Temple Meads 4pm-4am. 12.30am Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Stori Sbri. 2.15 Interval. 2.30 Racing from Newmarket. 4.20 Countdown. 5.00 Anturiaethau Syr Wynff â Plwmsan. 5.20 Wayne and Shuster. 6.00 High Band. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Taro Tant. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd yn ei Le. 9.15 Cheers. 9.45 Edwin. 11.10 Snwcer. *11.50 Paris I Love You.* 12.45am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Too Many Crooks*. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's On Where. 10.34 Strawbs in Concert. 11.05 Film: Judge Dee and the Monastry Murders. 12.45am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 Judi. 2.30-4.00 Film: Five Fingers (James Mason). Spy thriller. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Race Is On: Catamaran championships. 11.05 Magnum. 12.10am News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-4.00 Film: Mammy.* Al Holson musical. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Weir's Way. 10.35 Ways and Means. 11.05 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05am Crann Tara. 12.35 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 At Ease. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On The Market. 2.00 Film: Madame Sin (Bette Davis). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.05-7.00 Weekend. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Film: Light at the Edge of the World (Kirk Douglas). 1.25am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Small Voice* (Howard Keel). 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00-7.00 Calendar. 7.30-8.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 My Way. 11.00 Film: And Now the Screaming Starts. 12.40am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Happy is the Bride* (Janette Scott). 3.30-4.00 Young *Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi.* 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 In the Garden. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Adge Cutler, First Wurzel. 11.15 Film: Haunted and the Hunted*. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 9.30am-9.45 Wales and the Sea. 11.05-11.20 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30 All Wales TSB Young Musician of the Year. 11.30 Film: Haunted and the Hunted. 12.45am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Small Voice* (Valerie Hobson). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. *10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Gangster* Chronicles. 12.45am Common as Muck, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.30 Film: Ball of Fire* (Garry Cooper). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.35 Sweeney. 11.35 Film: She'll Follow You Anywhere (Kieth Baron). *1.15am Closedown.*

TVS As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Falcon Crest. 3.00-3.30 In Loving Memory. 5.15-5.45 Take the High Road. 6.00 Coast To Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 *Fall Guy. 10.30 Just Williams. 11.30 Film:* Pagan Madonna. 1.25am Company, Closedown.

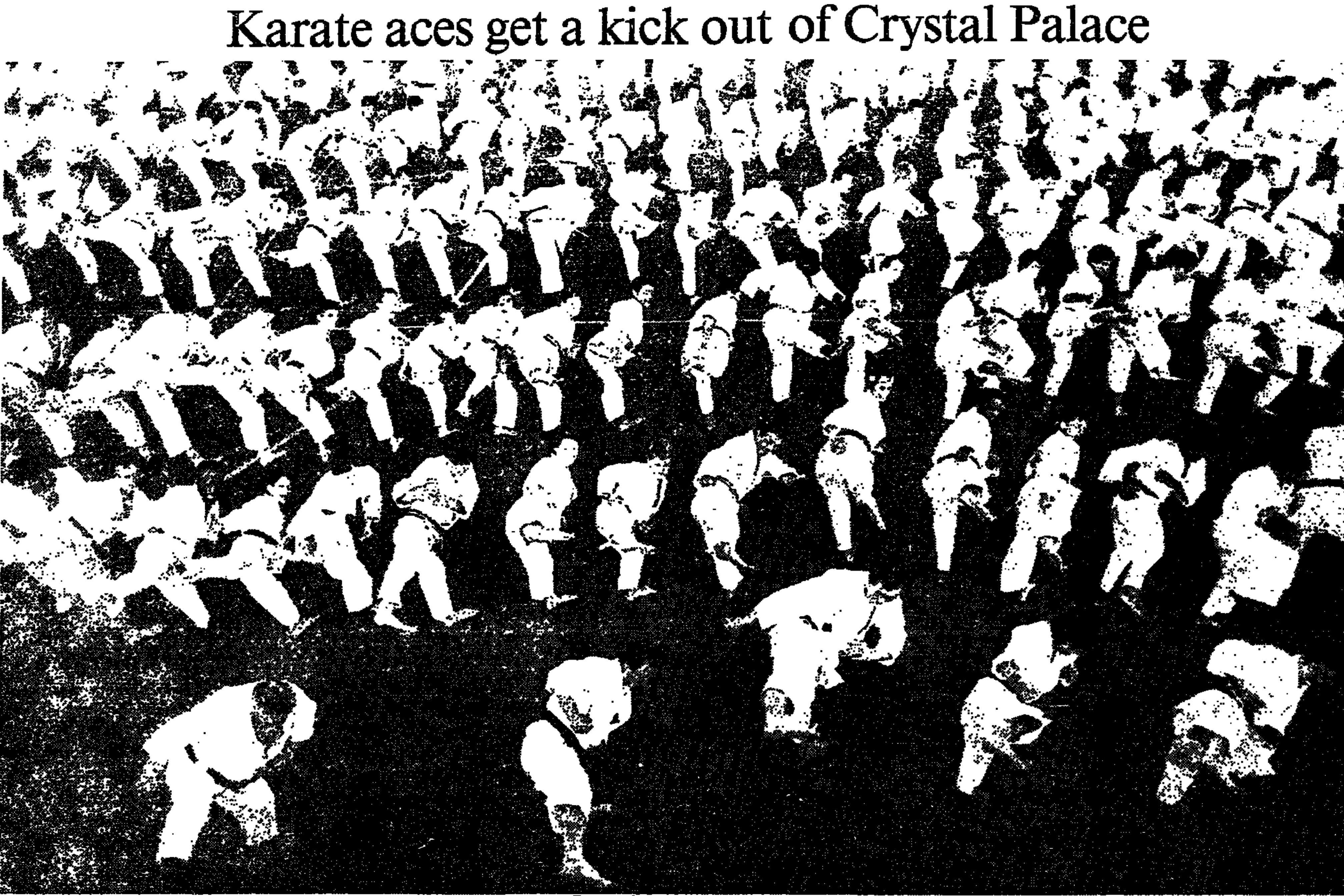
BORDER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Judi. 2.30 Quenton E Deverill. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Nature Trail. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Look Who's Talking. 10.30 Irish RM. 11.30 Darkroom. 12.20am News, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-3.30 Film: Rooney* (John Gregson). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Film: Wicker Man *(Edward Woodward). 1.30am Three's* Company. Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Clegg's People. 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Crossfire. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Bizarre. 12.30am News, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Too Many Crooks (Terry-Thomas). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.34 Strawbs in Concert. 11.05 Film: Judge Gee and the Monastery Murders. 12.45am Postscript, Closedown.

Karate aces get a kick out of Crystal Palace



Some of the world's most revered karate instuctors lead more than 300 students at the European Special Summer Course at Crystal Palace, London, which goes on until next Friday. Below centre, Sensei Kase, 8th Dan, considered the premier karate instructor in the world, and colleagues demonstrate their art. Photographs Norman Lomax.



Coal convoy stepped up

Continued from page 1

changing my position at the moment."

However, Mr Ned Smith, the coal board's director-general of industrial relations, has been seeking to arrange talks with the union on a possible compromise involving phasing of the board's plans to shut 20 pits and a shift back to area-level talks on the scale of redundancies. He has made two calls to the union offices, but no meeting has been arranged.

Meanwhile, 121 pits remain strikebound last night as the strike ended its eighth week. Forty-nine were producing coal, although not all at normal levels.

The board has stopped issuing figures for the overall number of men on strike.

● The Prime Minister exploited yesterday Labour embarrassment over the miners' attempted blockade of Ravenscraig by dubbing Mr Kinnock, party leader, "the strikers' friend" (Our Political Correspondent writes).

She told the Commons that the steel industry was a very good customer for coal. "One would think that an industry which wants a good future would be careful to keep its customers.

"Strikes lose jobs sometimes in the industry in which the strike occurs and sometimes in other industries as well."

Shylock outrage forces changes

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company has hurriedly amended the programme for its controversial production of *The Merchant of Venice* at Stratford after complaints that the original was antisemitic.

Senior RSC staff drafted several additional remarks, mentioning the aftermath of the Second World War holocaust and saying that contemporary comments about Jews in the programme reflected "the ignorance, prejudice and cruelty of the times".

Although the company frequently issues errata slips for its programmes, it is highly unusual for it to go to the trouble and expense of producing editorial matter to inserted later. An RSC spokesman said that the additional material would probably be incorporated into the programme when it is reprinted.

The Stratford production was criticized in an article in *The Times* by Mr William Frankel, who said that Mr Ian McDiarmid's performance as Shylock had "the potential for inciting or reinforcing racial or religious prejudice." Mr McDiarmid, replied that he did not believe the play was antisemitic and added that it was impertinent to imply that he had little regard for the Jewish faith or wished in any way to minimize the effect of the atrocities of the holocaust.

The RSC said that it had received only letters of support after the publication of Mr Frankel's article, and a few telephone calls from people expressing criticism. Nevertheless, it decided to revise the programmes, under the supervision of Sir Kenneth Cork, the chairman of its council of governors.

One of those understood to have complained is Mr Cyril Stein, head of Ladbrokes which has sponsored RSC productions in the past.

The original programme consisted mainly of contemporary accounts of attitudes towards Jews in Elizabethan England. Jews had been banned from the country for 300 years when Shakespeare wrote the play in 1596.

Mr Frankel said that the programme contained five infamous anti-Jewish writings of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Italy halts shipment of statue to US

From Peter Nichols
Rome

The Italian Government, in a last-minute move, yesterday blocked shipment of a Michelangelo masterpiece to the United States.

The Sculpture, "Christ bearing the Cross", was due to stand in the Vatican pavilion at the 1984 World's Fair. It was rumoured that the Pope had asked the Italian authorities to arrange for the packing and transport by air to New Orleans of the famous work, which had never before been moved from its pedestal by the altar of the church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva since it was placed there in 1521.

The exact sequence of events is shrouded in secrecy. The Vatican is said to have made its request through Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, who passed it on to Signor Mino Guliotti, Minister for the Cultural Heritage, who made arrangements without informing Signor Dante Bernini, superintendent of Rome's art treasures. This touch of discreet stealth marked the whole operation.

The packers arrived on May Day, a public holiday, "following the style" as *La Repubblica* newspaper put it, "of thieves who go to rob apartments".

Signor Bernini went to the church when he heard what was afoot. The packing was, in his view, inadequate.

Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, was apparently one of the last to know, but the first to react with decision. He peremptorily ordered a halt to the project while "further studies" were made.

Was he angry? Well, said one of his closer associates, the Prime Minister "showed remarkable self-control". Will the statue be sent to the United States after the period of further study? It is hardly likely.

What almost made Signor Craxi lose his self-control is that the incident comes at a delicate moment on relations between church and state. The two have just signed a new concordat, which has still to be debated in Parliament.

And now the semi-secret crating of the Michelangelo is being presented by a large section of the press as presumption by the Vatican and another failure by the Italian authorities to show proper respect for their immense cultural heritage.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen visits the 1st Battalion the Royal Welch Fusiliers, Warminster, Wilts, 11.

Princess Anne presents the Youth Caring Awards at Pebble Mill, Birmingham, 12.15; and later, as Upper Warden of the Worshipful Company of Farriers, attends a Livery Dinner at the Mansion House, London, 6.35.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attends the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the De Haviland Aircraft Museum Trust, and opens the new hangar at Salisbury Hall, Hatfield, 3.45.

Princess Alexandra opens The Friends Dental Unit for handicapped people at Barnfield House, Chichester Hospitals, West Sussex, 2; and later as patron, visits Burton Rough, the West Sussex village of CARE for mentally handicapped people, 3.20; and then, visits Seaford College, Petworth, West Sussex, on the occasion of the Centenary celebrations of the college, 4.30.

New Exhibitions

Art of the Beatles exhibition: Walker Art Gallery, William Brown St, Liverpool 3; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Sept 30).

Exhibitions in progress

Detecting Forgery and Imitation in Art: The Whitworth Art allery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Oxford Rd, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun (until May 7).

Ten new paintings by Tess Jaray, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Oxford Rd, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun (until June 2).

Fibre Art Exhibition: Gawthorpe Hall, Padiham, Nr Burnley; Tues to Sun 2 to 5 (ends June 3).

Beatle Paraphernalia: Beatle City, Seel St, Liverpool, Mon to Sun, 10.30 to 8.30.

Last chance to see

Oil paintings by Wendy Raphael, Ginnel Gallery, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; 9 to 5 (ends today).

Music

The Creation, performed by Glasgow Cathedral Choral Society with the Glasgow Chamber Orchestra, Glasgow Cathedral, 7.15.

Concert by University of Glasgow Music Club, Concert Hall, University of Glasgow, 7.30.

Concert by Strathclyde University Chorus and Chamber Orchestra, Assembly Hall, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, 7.30.

Concert by Monte Carlo Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

Concert by the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, Kings College Chapel, 8.00pm.

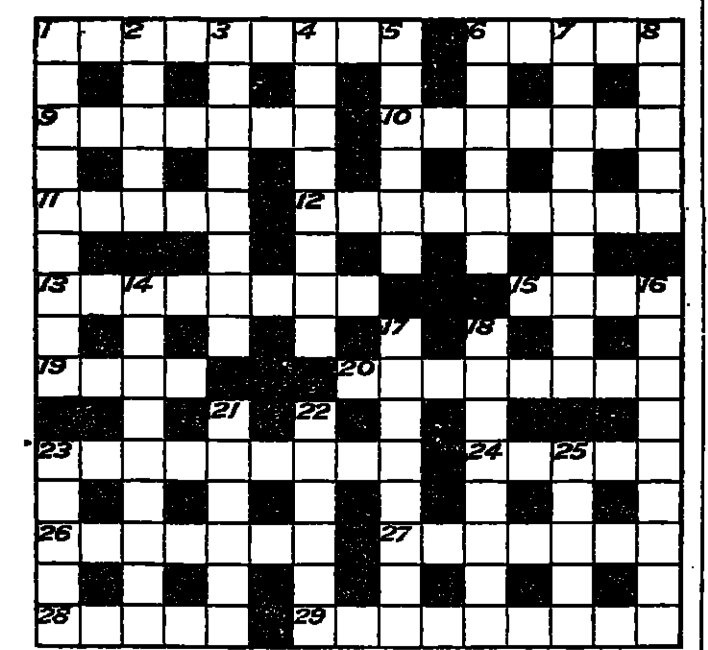
General

International Garden Festival: visitors on foot start St Michael's Station, in cars Herculean Docks, Liverpool; Mon to Sun 10.30 to dusk (until October 14).

Walks

Legal London, Old Bailey, Inns of Court, Royal Courts of Justice, meet St Paul's Underground, 2. 'Lawyers' London, meet Temple Underground, 10.30. Mayfair, meet Green Park Underground, 2. Death of Sherlock Holmes anniversary walk, meet Embankment Underground, 11. Roman London, The origins of the city, meet Museum of London, 2.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,421



ACROSS
1 It can be made up into a suit, though it's a job (9).
6 A good deal makes sense (5).
9 Willing to write a half-term exam in advance (7).
10 The usual hail-storm (7).
11 Don't take time off (5).
12 A bull maybe is recumbent outside – result of these tranquillizers? (9).
13 Principal source of this concern (8).
15 To agitate could mean prison! (4).
19 Everything turned on the egg-head woman (4).
20 Plant about a quarter before the fall to get early blossom (8).
23 "A beast, that wants —— of reason" (*Hamlet*) (9).
24 One lacking nothing holds a few, being quite unaffected (5).
26 Press job (7).
27 Bill's entering the wood bearing food (7).
28 A course for the egg-producer (5).
29 One finishing in the trial is the most vulnerable (9).

DOWN
1 What's going round the Southeast about a report, it appears (9).
2 Set up thus in play or opera (5).
3 Area must appear replanned by non-professional people (8).
4 Thought to have some inclination for a perfectionist (8).
5 Almost never but not always before time (6).
6 Understand a proverb can divert youngsters (6).
7 Gold tiara made by an old fighting man (9).
8 Seen in the enchantress's hair (5).
14 Conservative holding all the way? It's hardly credible (4,5).
16 Stand for an army corps here (9).
17 Bun well-cooked taken as nourishment – there's nothing better (8).
18 Put on airs about French article on English ballet (4,4).
21 His merchandise is measured by the foot (6).
22 Quick-witted statesman (6).
23 Baboon's army training? (5).
25 Cross one with speed (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,420

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on Griffiths report on NHS management.
Lords (11): Juries (Disqualification) Bill, second reading. Video Recordings Bill, committee, second day.

Anniversaries

Births: William Prescott, historian (*History of the Conquest of Mexico*), Salem, Massachusetts, 1796. Thomas Henry Huxley, scientist, Ealing, Middlesex, 1825; Sir Archibald McIndoe, plastic surgeon, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1900.

Georges Enesco, violinist and composer, died in Paris, 1955.

The *Daily Mail* was first published, 1896. General strike, lasting until May 12, 1926.

Food prices

Home produced lamb prices are up this week, some cuts by as much as 8p a pound. Whole leg ranges from £1.64-£2.44, the average price about £2.03 a pound. Loin chops range from £1.76-£2.84 and whole shoulder 98p-£1.65 a pound, best end £1.64-£2.75. New Zealand lamb shows a slight increase with whole legs from £1.26-£1.50 and whole shoulder at 74-94p a pound.

Beef topside and silverside ranges from £1.98-£2.30, bone in forerib £1.28-£1.66 and fillet steak from £3.50-£4.50 a pound.

There are few changes in pork prices with whole leg from 88p-£1.26, boneless shoulder 98p-£1.35 a pound, and loin chops £1.22-£1.46 a pound. Some good buys are Sainsbury's topside, top rump and silverside at £1.94 a pound; Tesco boneless brisket £1.52, and New Zealand shoulder of lamb at 68p; Fine Fare leg of pork (bone-in) 98p; Dewhurst braising steak at £1.59 a pound. Bejam have peeled prawns for £2.89 a pound and 5lb packs of sweetcorn for £2.49.

The British asparagus season started this week and the warm sunny weather in April gave the crop an enormous boost. Mr Michael Paske, secretary of the British Asparagus Growers' Association, says: "The hottest April on record looks like producing the best tasting British asparagus on record." Producers hope to harvest more than 32 million spears from the 1,350 acres now under asparagus. Prices range from 80p to £1 for sprue below 8mm in thickness, to jumbo (20mm) at £2 to £2.20 a pound.

Cape black Barlinka grapes are a good buy this week, about 70p a pound. Home grown natural rhubarb is a little cheaper at 20-30p a pound.

Bond winner

The winning number of this month's £250,000 premium bond prize is: 13XT 330809. The winner lives in Mid Glamorgan.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.58	1.50
Austria Sch	28.05	26.45
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75
Canada $	1.86	1.79
Denmark Kr	14.45	13.75
Finland Mkk	8.38	7.98
France Fr	12.14	11.54
Germany DM	3.93	3.75
Greece Dr	156.00	146.00
Hongkong $	11.35	10.75
Italy Lira	2425.00	2325.00
Japan Yen	331.00	31500
Netherlands Gld	4.46	4.24
Norway Kr	11.30	10.70
Portugal Esc	199.00	189.00
South Africa Rd	2.13	1.97
Spain Pta	217.00	206.00
Sweden Kr	11.70	11.10
Switzerland Fr	3.26	3.09
USA $	1.44	1.39
Yugoslavia Dnr	202.00	183.00
Ireland	1.29	1.22

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 345.1.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 3.4 at 922.8.

Roads

Midlands: A49: Junction A456 at Woofferton, single line traffic. A34: Roadworks at Tidmington, south of Shipston.

North: A180: Contraflow between Barnetby intersection and Harborough, Brigg to Ukerby section, Humberside. A167: Closed at Ferryhill, Merrington Lane (B6287). M6: Lanes closed between junctions 20 and 21 at thelwall Viaduct, Cheshire. A6110: Roadworks along existing carriageway of Leeds Southern Ring Road. A1: Carriageway closures over the Londisfarne Interchange Bridge, near Jarrow, Tyne and Wear.

Wales and West: A48/A473: Bridgend: Delays at Nocton Street/Cowbridge to junction, mid Glamorgan. A4018: Delays at Whiteladies Rd, Bristol. A390: Speed limit at Lostwithiel to Truro Rd. at Penpillick Hill, St Blazey.

Scotland: Edinburgh: Canongate closed between Cranston Street and New Street to westbound traffic, diversion. A737: Delays at Kirkcudbright, sewer laying at Ferguslie, E of Fulbar Rd, Paisley, outside lanes closed. A701: Sewer renewal at Churchgate Moffat, single lane traffic with lights.

Information supplied by the AA.

Top films

The top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Greystoke
2 (2) Terms of Endearment
3 (3) Yentl
4 (5) Silkwood
5 (5) Footloose
6 (6) Swann In Love
7 (8) The Dresser
8 (9) Educating Rita
9 (–) High Road To China
10 (10) Trading Places

The top films in the provinces:
1 Yentl
2 Lady and the Tramp
3 Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes
4 Terms of Endearment
5 Educating Rita

Supplied by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 Superman III
2 Making Michael Jackson's Thriller
3 Flashdance
4 Raiders of the Last Ark
5 The Dark Crystal
6 Octopussy
7 The Choirboys
8 The Ninja Mission
9 Blue Thunder
10 National Lampoon's Vacation

Supplied by *Video Business*

The papers

The Daily Mirror says "What possible gain can there be for the miners to force permanent shut-down of the Ravenscraig steel works? Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet refused to let it happen because it was afraid of the political consequences. But now the miners are in danger of doing to the steelworkers what the Government would not allow Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman of the coal board, to do." The paper adds: "They will lose other union support if they destroy Ravenscraig. Certainly, the Labour Party couldn't back them. Mr Scargill's one hope of winning this strike was to have a united union following a national ballot."

Weather forecast

A slack pressure field covers the UK with shallow areas of low pressure to the SW and SE of Britain.

6am to midnight

London, Cen N, Cen S England, Midlands: Sunny intervals and scattered showers, wind variable light, max temp 15C (59F).

SE, E, NE England, E Anglia: Rather cloudy, sunny intervals developing, wind NE, light, max temp 14C (57F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Rather cloudy, a little rain in places at first, wind SE light to moderate, max temp 15C (59F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: wind variable light, max temp 16C (61F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, some sunny intervals, wind variable light, max temp 13C (55F).

Outlook tomorrow and Sunday: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, most frequent in the S, more cloud and drizzle in N Scotland later.

SEA PASSAGES: S, North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind NE light or moderate, showers, visibility moderate with fog patches, sea slight or smooth. English Channel (E): Wind light E showers, visibility moderate with fog patches, sea smooth. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind light variable or E, mainly fair, visibility moderate, sea smooth.

Sun rises: 5.27 am Sun sets: 8.29 pm
Moon rises: 7.12 am Moon sets: 2.35 pm tomorrow
First Quarter: May 8.

Lighting-up time

London 8.59 pm to 4.45 am
Bristol 9.09 pm to 5.05 am
Edinburgh 9.28 pm to 4.50 am
Manchester 9.15 pm to 4.58 am
Penzance 9.16 pm to 5.21 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.

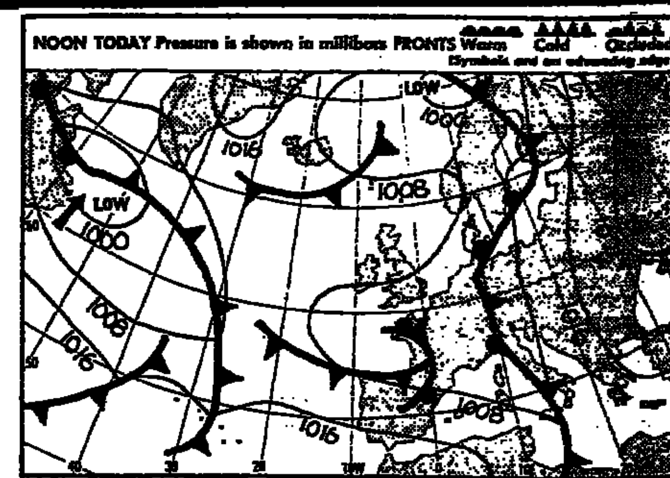
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	16	61	Guernsey	s	12	54
Birmingham	c	9	48	Inverness	f	12	54
Blackpool	s	15	59	Jersey	f	11	52
Bristol	c	11	52	London	c	11	52
Cardiff	f	10	50	Manchester	s	15	59
Edinburgh	s	12	54	Newcastle	s	14	57
Glasgow	f	15	59	Ronaldsway	s	11	52

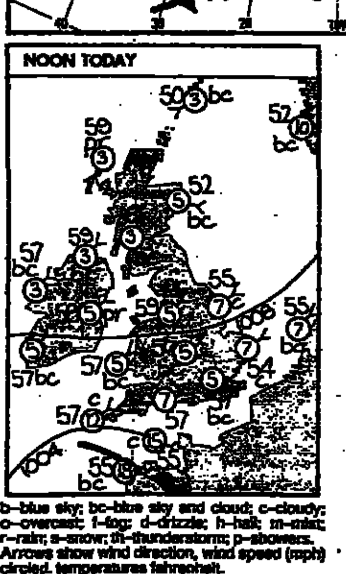
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Glasgow Airport, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Fife Ness, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Weymouth, .44in; highest sunshine: Carlisle, Prestwick, 12.2hr.

London

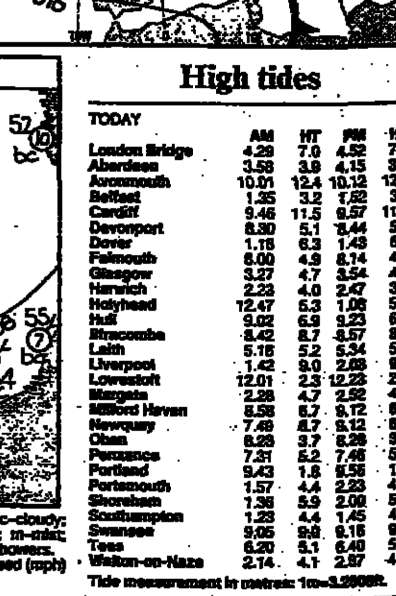
Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 13C (55F); min 6pm to 6am, 8C (46F). Humidity: 6pm, 69 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level: 6pm, 1,008.1 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. Temperature in Fahrenheit.

High tides



TODAY [illegible]

Around Britain

[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

[illegible]

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available